# The Nation.

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## The Week.

THE annual report of the Treasurer of the United States is as clear as a Chinese puzzle. It has been "submitted to Secretary Charles Foster," and it will remain for that lucid financier to reconcile its statements with his own official reports. For example, Treasurer Nebeker reports the revenue of the Government for the last fiscal year at $354,937,784, and the expenditures at $345,023,320; from Secretary Foster's office the figures had been given out as $356,933,302 and $361,348,669 respectively. The difference appears to be due to the fact that Mr. Nebeker has calmly left out the Treasury transactions on the score of the national-bank deposit and redemption funds — on which there was a net deficit of about $13,500,000 for the year—and thus transformed a general and actual deficit of $4,500,000 into an apparent but fictitious surplus of $9,000,000. But he is not consistent even in this misleading method, since, if he had followed it in his comparison of this year's expenditures with last, he would have found the decrease not, as he says, $10,349,354, but $20,750,575. It is waste of time to discuss seriously such juggling figures.

Towards the close of last summer's gold-export movement the outlook for the Federal Treasury's gold reserve became a question of grave concern. In the later weeks of August the Treasury's gold surplus, in excess of the $100,000,000 reserve, had sunk to little more than $10,000,000. There seemed to be some reason for fearing the total wiping out of this surplus, and the Micawber-like cheerfulness of Secretary Foster did little service in dispelling misgivings. The turn came, however, at the moment when the outlook was darkest. Up to that date the Treasury had been paying out gold to specie exporters in exchange for United States notes and Treasury notes. This had necessarily drawn down the surplus gold reserve with great rapidity. In September precisely the reverse movement took place. The New York banks needed currency and legal-tenders to supply the needs of the Western harvest season. This currency could be obtained only from the Treasury, and in exchange for it the banks were forced to pay out gold. Under this operation, $15,000,000 additional gold was added to the Treasury's "free surplus," which on November 9 reached its maximum of $25,500,000 over the hundred-million reserve. But, the harvest season ended, this source of mechanical supply was stopped. For the last three weeks the gold reserve at Washington has been slowly but steadily falling, and the resumption of gold exports, at so very unusual a period in the year, brings the question once more to public attention. This is the more necessary in that the month of January, even without an export of specie, is always marked by a diminishing specie reserve. The Treasurer's report is careful to point this out. There are many elements rising to present notice in our Government finance which point without exception to the checking of the source of all this monetary confusion. The plea for the immediate repeal of the Sherman Act of 1890 cannot at any rate lack unmistakable arguments.

The plan for dealing with the silver question proposed by Mr. Alfred de Rothschild in the Brussels Conference has a touch of opéra-bouffe beyond anything in the sug gestions of modern finance, unless the subtreasury scheme of the Farmers' Alliance may be deemed the more amusing of the two. We are not at all surprised that the American delegates are "thoroughly satisfied with the turn of events." Anything which draws attention away from them and turns the laugh on somebody else would naturally be considered a good thing. He proposes that the United States shall continue to buy 54,000,000 ounces of silver per year, and that all the other nations together shall buy $25,000,000 worth per year for five years — this by way of palliating the crisis which he believes will come if the United States, in a fit of desperation, begins to sell her hoard of silver. If silver reaches 43d. per ounce at any time, the buying is to stop. Why so? At 43d. per ounce our precious silver dollar would be worth only 75 cents. Why should we consent to a stoppage short of par? Why should Mr. Jones, as President of the Nevada Mining and Milling Company, consent to such a shave? And nothing is said about the situation five years hence. Since there are mines in Colorado that can turn out silver in large quantities at 26 to 30 cents per ounce, *i. e.*, at one-third of Mr. Rothschild's maximum, it is a safe bet that they will continue to furnish it as long as any syndicate of nations stands ready to take it at 90 cents and upwards. They will be as well prepared in the year 1897 as they are now, and meanwhile, perhaps, new mines will be discovered in America or Australia that may add their quota to the present gayety and the coming gloom. For it may be expected that in 1897 the situation will be as much worse than it is now as the holdings of silver will be larger then than they are now.

Republican prophets of trouble between Mr. Cleveland and the office-seekers of his party are having hard luck with their prognostications. They had a grand time for a week or more after election with predictions about the terms of the bargain that he had made with Croker, Sheehan, and Murphy at that celebrated Victoria Hotel dinner. Croker was put in charge of the Custom-house, "Paddy" Divver was assigned to the New York Post-office, and "Barney" Martin was about to be "slated" for the English Mission, when the Brooklyn *Eagle* ruined the entire industry by publishing the fact that no bargain had been made and no pledges of any kind given. The prophets died very hard on this issue, but they finally abandoned it by turning upon their sad and dejected ally, the *Sun*, and demanding fiercely why it had thus lied to them about it. No response came from that cave of gloom save some incoherent mutterings about Mugwumps. On Saturday a new source of trouble for Mr. Cleveland was discovered in a rumor that Senator Gorman had called a conference of Democrats, which was to decide upon a plan for "steering Cleveland" in his party policy, including the distribution of offices. This was worked with great success on Sunday and again on Monday, but it has been destroyed for further use by the announcement from Senator Gorman that he has no knowledge of such a conference, and never heard of it till he saw the news of it in the papers. Other Democratic statesmen who were assigned to leading parts in the conference, hasten to say that they have no knowledge of it. There seems to be, in fact, a disposition among Democratic statesmen to avoid the appearance of offering themselves as "steerers" for Mr. Cleveland, the not unnatural impression being that he is quite able to steer himself.

The complete calm which has followed Mr. Cleveland's farewell address to the office-seekers, issued on the eve of his departure for the South, is a fresh demonstration of the great value of courage in politics. No previous President elect ventured to issue such an address, no matter how unbearable may have been the torture to which he was subjected. Now that it has been done, everybody is able to see the wisdom of it. The politicians and newspapers together would soon have had the new President involved in such a furious scramble for office that he would not have had a moment's time for anything else. Furthermore, the fury of the onslaught would have increased with every day's progress, so that by the time the 4th of March arrived, the Democratic party would have been in much the same condition that the Republican party was in when Garfield was inaugurated. By stopping the business when he did, and in the unmistakable manner that he did, Mr. Cleveland has saved his party from the danger of a rup-

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ture before it succeeded to power, and has done a great deal towards quieting permanently the craze for office throughout the country. The descent of office-seekers upon Washington after the inauguration will be much smaller than it would have been had the address not been issued, and will be much smaller than it was four years ago, after President Harrison had announced in his inaugural that efforts would be made to give all applicants something. Mr. Cleveland is evidently in a much less approachable temper than Mr. Harrison was, and we trust he will continue in it after March 4. In the meantime, he has done the country a great service in not merely "scaring off" the office-seekers, but in silencing also the newspapers which were doing their utmost to excite the hungry to greater fury.

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Senator Vest of Missouri opposes the idea of an extra session, on the ground that "the first few months of Mr. Cleveland's Administration will be taken up by the work of organization and filling the offices with new appointees." Of course a new President of the United States encounters at the outset "the work of organization," just as a new Prime Minister in England does. But it is not a work which need consume much time after the inauguration, for the President-elect is expected to have the members of his Cabinet picked out before he goes to Washington, and such other nominations for important offices as require to be made immediately ready for submission to the Senate within two or three weeks after the 4th of March. When this has been done, the new Administration will be organized and ready to carry out the policy which it was elected to introduce. As Mr. Vest himself repeatedly pointed out during the canvass, the election was to decide between two policies of government, and the business of the successful candidate would be to carry out the policy which the people approved—just as the election in Great Britain a few months ago was to decide whether the home-rule policy should be adopted, and the business of Gladstone, if successful, would be to carry out that policy. Only a few changes in office are required in either country to effect the change of policy decreed by the voters. In Great Britain the new appointments made by Gladstone did not exceed thirty, and yet that small number of changes sufficed to reverse the whole policy of the Government.

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As for "filling the offices with new appointees"—meaning thereby the tens of thousands of post-offices and other such places—the idea of a prime minister's wasting his time and the nation's time in such mean employment is so absurd that no intelligent Englishman could endure it. Nor would any intelligent American have any patience with the suggestion that Gladstone should fritter away his strength in this way. But it is not a whit more absurd that Gladstone should bother himself over the claims of a host of applicants for every post-office than that Cleveland should do the same thing. Everybody recognizes that there ought to be a number of changes in the chief executive offices in order to carry out the policy of the new Administration; but it will not take long to make these necessary changes, and the notion that Mr. Cleveland's time for "the first few months" after March 4 next will be, or ought to be, taken up with the filling of the run of offices throughout the country with new appointees, is preposterous.

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The correspondence between Secretary Charles Foster and Congressman Fitch on the subject of John I. Davenport's accounts puts the former in the extremely mortifying position of not knowing the practice of his own department. Mr. Foster had undertaken to read a lecture to Mr. Fitch, in a rather high key, on that particular subject. Consequently he has put himself in a very glaring light. The gist of the Secretary's letter is that the law makes the certificate of the Judge of the Circuit Court conclusive upon the officers of the Treasury in settling and adjusting the accounts of the Chief Supervisor of Elections, and hence that the Treasury Department cannot suspend payment or exercise any discretion thereon. Mr. Fitch shows by repeated decisions of both courts and the Treasury that this idea is altogether erroneous, and that the Department has cut down Mr. Davenport's certified accounts in two instances since Mr. Foster himself has been the Secretary. In fact, the fundamental idea upon which the Treasury Department was organized was the idea of subjecting every claim upon the public funds to an examination and adjustment before payment. The Comptroller is the last officer who examines them, and he is just as much bound to pass judgment upon the accounts that bear the certificate of a judge as those that bear the certificate of a postmaster or a light-house keeper. The judges who pass upon the Supervisor's accounts know this, and hence they consider their own duties merely perfunctory. Mr. Foster, a short time since, gave us a running account of the duties of the several bureaus of his department. If he should have occasion to repeat that exercise, he would know more after reading Mr. Fitch's letter about the duties of the Comptrollers than he did when he last addressed our Chamber of Commerce.

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The official figures on the Presidential ticket in this State, as published by the *World* on November 23, show the remarkable fact that the total vote of New York this year is more than 25,000 short of the total four years ago. The population is gaining at the rate of nearly 2 per cent. a year, so that, in the natural course of things, the Presidential poll in 1892 should have been about 7 per cent. larger than in 1888—or fully 1,400,000, instead of not quite 1,300,000, as was actually the case. There was a larger labor vote this year than four years ago, but as the Prohibitionists lost several thousands, the total vote for other candidates than Cleveland and Harrison was about the same in the two years. For the two leading candidates the votes in the two contests were as follows:

| | 1888. | 1892. |
|---|---|---|
| Cleveland | 635,965 | 653,900 |
| Harrison | 650,338 | 608,230 |

It will be observed that Cleveland gained nearly 18,000, while Harrison lost more than 42,000. This is the first time since the Republican party was formed that its vote in New York at any Presidential election has been smaller than it was at the previous election. The following table of the votes shows how terrible was the shock which the party suffered this year:

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| 1856—Frémont | 276,007 |
| 1860—Lincoln | 362,646 |
| 1864—Lincoln | 368,735 |
| 1868—Grant | 419,888 |
| 1872—Grant | 440,736 |
| 1876—Hayes | 489,207 |
| 1880—Garfield | 555,544 |
| 1884—Blaine | 562,005 |
| 1888—Harrison | 650,338 |
| 1892—Harrison | 608,230 |

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The rebuke to the Harrison Administration was most humiliating in Indiana. In his own State, as in New York, Harrison's second candidacy reduced the Republican vote below what it had been in the previous Presidential contest for the first time since the party was formed, as the following table shows:

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| 1856—Frémont | 94,375 |
| 1860—Lincoln | 139,033 |
| 1864—Lincoln | 150,422 |
| 1868—Grant | 176,548 |
| 1872—Grant | 186,147 |
| 1876—Hayes | 208,011 |
| 1880—Garfield | 232,164 |
| 1884—Blaine | 238,463 |
| 1888—Harrison | 263,361 |
| 1892—Harrison | 256,681 |

The People's party vote was much larger in Indiana this year than the Labor vote in 1888, and the greater part of it came from the Democrats; nevertheless, Cleveland received 1,705 more votes in 1892 than in 1888, and has a plurality of 6,037 now, against a plurality of 2,348 for Harrison then.

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Mayor Grant's announcement that he shall not make any further appointments for office during the remaining weeks of his term is most welcome intelligence. His reasons for not making any give a curious and instructive view of the workings of his mind. He says he believes that "when the outgoing Mayor is in sympathy with the political views of the incoming Mayor, he should not, in the closing weeks of his term, appoint officials who will necessarily take part in the administration of the new incumbent. Were the Mayor-elect of a different political faith than myself, then I think there might be some doubt about my taking such a course." The practice of the outgoing Mayor's appointing officials to hold office usually during the entire term of

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his successor has been one of the most vicious in our municipal system, for it has very often led to the putting into office of some of the very worst persons with whom the city has ever been afflicted. The new Mayor has often found himself so hopelessly handicapped in this way that he has been nearly powerless throughout his term to accomplish reforms which he had in mind. This was the case when Mayor Edson, on the last day of his term, appointed Squire Commissioner of Public Works. Of course, if the new Mayor be of opposite political faith to his predecessor, this handicap is all the more deadly. Yet Mayor Grant says he should probably place it on him were that the case in this instance; his idea of the Mayoralty being that its first duty is to secure the offices for the organization. But, however Tammanyite the Mayor's reasoning may be, everybody will be glad that the city is to have no more appointments from him.

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The Census Office has just issued its complete report on the mineral industries of the country, which contains a section on tin that is amusing or disgraceful, according as one looks at it. It begins with the frank statement: "Tin mining in the United States presents the exceptional condition of an industry giving employment to many persons, but which at the end of the census year had not reached the stage of producing commercial tin." That being the case, a census conducted on ordinary principles would conclude that it had better stop right there. "Commercial tin" is all it has any business to concern itself with, and political tin, tin which is good enough until after election, speculative tin, prospectus tin, and all the moonshine varieties of the article, should be freely and entirely turned over to McKinley and his fellow-campaigners. But Census Commissioner Porter knows that he is a politician or nothing, and so has put in the chapter on the statistics of political tin. There is an American section of eight pages, four of which are taken up with a "List of Tin Claims in the Black Hills," and then follow nine pages on "Foreign Production of Tin." What right the latter subject has in a census of the United States, it might be hard to decide; but we are not disposed to blame the compiler, since, after fooling around with mythical and political tin, as he was forced to do, it must have become a positive mental necessity for him to get hold of real tin somewhere. The report naturally booms the famous Harney Peak tin mines, and its appearance is thus very happily timed to coincide with the complete and crushing exposure of that "gigantic fiasco," as a London trade journal of November 4 calls it, which has just been made. The same paper asserts that "the prospects for the future" of that paper tin-mine "are hopeless," and as this is quoted without comment by the *Bulletin* of the American Iron and Steel Association, we suppose it must be taken as final.

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A little experience promises to accomplish more than a vast deal of argument in the matter of the bill to prohibit trading in futures. This bill went through the House at the last session in deference to a supposed demand for its passage from the agricultural interests, and it now looks as though it would be rejected by the Senate in response to an evident demand from the same interests for its defeat. The rise in the price of cotton has wrought the change. Three months ago it was selling in Charleston, S. C., at 7⅛ cents a pound; on Friday it touched 9¾ and 10 cents. Of course, one chief reason for the advance is the discovery that the crop is a short one, but the price would not have gone anywhere near so high as it now is if dealers had been unable to trade in options. In other words, the South Carolina planter could not get the price now offered him in cash for his cotton if Congress had been able to prevent the buyer from purchasing for future delivery. The Southern planters begin to see the point, and they are numerously signing petitions to the Senate to reject the pending bill.

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What has become of that "thorough investigation" into the official conduct of Minister Egan and Consul McCreery which was promised by the State Department last May? A Congressional investigation was then threatened, but was suspended out of "courtesy" to the Department, which, it was said, ought to have the first chance to pass upon the acts of its subordinates. But delay has followed delay, and nothing has been done, so far as the public has been permitted to know. McCreery came home, went to Washington, and thence to Michigan, intimating that Chili had no further charms for him. Was he dismissed or allowed to resign? Egan retired to Nebraska, immediately after the election had demonstrated his wonderful hold on the Irish vote, and shows no intention of rejoining his dear Chilians. Has he resigned "under fire"? Has anything at all been done by the Department of State about his case? We hope to see these questions answered in the forthcoming reports of the Executive to Congress, or, if they are not, some suitable action taken by the House in the premises.

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The Presbyterian Church prides itself, and justly, on the elaborate safeguards thrown around its ministry to prevent them from suffering by hasty ecclesiastical condemnation, but it begins to look as if some of the prosecutors of Prof. Briggs would soon be in favor of substituting the short, sharp, and decisive methods of the Inquisition for their own slow-going legal process. Prof. Briggs is wholly within his right, and is doubtless acting also from a sense of duty, in making the technical fight he does on the preliminaries of his trial. His argument of Monday seems to have made further serious holes in the charges brought by his prosecutors —so much so that they asked time to haul off for repairs. They appear, in common with the rest of the Presbytery, to have been especially appalled at one of his points, which was as follows:

> "Have you considered what will be required of you if you consent to this proposal of the prosecution? It will be necessary for you to employ a reader to read to you all the contents of the Standards of the Church, all of Holy Scripture, the entire Inaugural Address, and all of my writings referred to therein. You are required by law to have all the proposed evidence before you."

If this point is well taken, as it seems to be, we think it safe to say that that "proposal" will be dropped. Meanwhile, the Presbytery are getting some inkling of the comprehensive nature of Prof. Briggs's defence on the main question, as they see him thus acute and pertinacious in arguing on mere preliminaries.

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The resignation of the French Ministry brings to a close an unusually (for France) long period of parliamentary quiet and regularity. M. Loubet has gone down under the weight of the Panama scandal. It is doubtful whether any one who succeeds him will do any better. The trouble is that if the inquiry is pushed home, the revelations of corruption on the part both of legislators and journalists will be very great, and, after these are made, the Ministry will be expected to take some action about them, but what action it ought to be no one is prepared to say. No Ministry will wish to enter on a job of wholesale punishment, perhaps of friends, almost certainly of acquaintances. The Paris press is about the most corrupt in the world, and levies toll on everybody who desires publicity or editorial support, but it is also the most powerful press in the world, and the Minister who undertook to collar it and bring it to justice would have to take his courage in both his hands. What will happen now nobody knows. At every such crisis the Monarchists and Clericals announce the failure of the Republic, and the necessity of trying some other form of government, but the excitement will probably decline as the difficulty of getting any proof becomes more manifest. M. Brisson, who is a good deal of a political purist, is talked of as M. Loubet's successor, but the work of forming a Ministry as good as himself will be formidable. What with the Socialist difficulty, the Anarchist difficulty, the Clerical difficulty, and the German terror, the place is one from which any man might well shrink, because in no country could they be met successfully without unflinching party support in the Chamber, and this Frenchmen are not trained to give. The Germans will, however, find some comfort in the situation.

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*PLATFORMS AND PRINCIPLES.*

BEFORE the echoes of the campaign die away, the public ear ought to be filled once more with the note sounded by ex-Speaker Reed on the very eve of the election. "I am not," he said here in New York, "in favor of the Republican party on account of its principles, but on account of itself. I believe that principles do not make parties, but that parties make principles." This profession was generally esteemed worthy of the statesman who looks upon legislatures not as deliberative, but merely as voting, bodies, and it was indeed a fair measure of his own scrupulousness as well as of the decay of that "best crowd" which, having once found, he has ever since belonged to and means indefinitely to keep belonging to. Still, it had in it an element of truth; for if it is certain that parties do not originate without principles—that is, without common ideas and aims—it is equally certain that the mere habit of working together tends to prolong the existence of a party beyond the time when its original principles have been carried, defeated, or simply outlived. Moreover, it is natural for men who seriously regard themselves as saviours of society in one particular to end by assuming that rôle in all particulars. They alone can be depended upon to promote the cause of temperance, establish a sound currency, purify the civil service, extend the suffrage to women, fulfil the aspirations of workingmen, protect the farmer against the railroad monopoly, and the manufacturer against the pauper labor of Europe, and the silver miner against the world's market, and the freedman against his white enemies—and so on to the end of the chapter. Even if they did not suffer from this illusion, they would be led on to constant enlargement of their programme by the desire to gain votes through timely concession to the novel demands of public opinion, real or imaginary.

Parties thus in their superannuation come to resemble feeble parties in their small beginnings, which think themselves unable to obtain a footing unless they tack on to their prime motive for existing a goodly number of attractive but more or less irrelevant issues. The Liberty party, for instance, professed to be merely giving practical effect to the objects of the American Anti-Slavery Society, of which it was the outgrowth, and whose sole concern was with the institution of slavery. In its very first platform, however, in 1840, the new party dropped an anchor to windward by averring that, in addition to the paramount question just named, "we by no means lose sight of numerous other questions in which all who are to be affected, directly or indirectly, by our Government are deeply interested"—questions which the Massachusetts wing specified under the heads Corn Laws, Emigration from Foreign Countries, Home Manufactures and Tariff, The Banking System, Cotton Manufactures, Reciprocity in Trade, Economy in Expenditures, etc. In 1844 it explicitly declared that "the Liberty party has not been organized merely for the overthrow of slavery"; "it will also carry out the principle of equal rights into all its practical consequences and applications, and support every just measure conducive to individual and social freedom." The party died before it could name or help give effect to these measures.

Its successor in 1848 inscribed on its banner "Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Labor, and Free Men," but held it "due, not only to this occasion, but to the whole people of the United States, that we should declare ourselves on certain other questions of national policy," to wit: cheap postage, economy in expenditures and patronage, election (in place of executive appointment) of civil officers, river and harbor improvements, homestead grants, and payment of the national debt by a tariff for revenue only. In 1852 the Free-Soil party added to the foregoing a cordial welcome to "emigrants and exiles from the Old World," a proclamation of the duty of the American Government to intervene in behalf of Hungary, a recommendation of arbitration in international disputes. Though more spread out than in its inception, this party also died without achieving anything—without even maintaining its strength at the polls. Its successor, the Republican party, conscious of the revolution wrought by the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, introduced but two extraneous topics into its platform, viz., river and harbor improvements and a Pacific railroad to be built by Government aid. In this very restraint the Slave Power might have read the formidableness of its new antagonist.

It is not our object to follow the Republican party through its shifting phases from its commencement to the present moment, when it has, for the second time, been emphatically repudiated as the saviour of society from the horrors of competition with pauper labor. Nor shall we attempt to forecast the items of its next national platform, if there is to be one. We wish to remark, returning to Mr. Reed, that the making of principles by parties, alias the new piecing of platforms from ad-captandum motives, has brought these manifestoes into general contempt as grounds of party association. Not only do men vote for a good candidate in spite of a bad platform, but good candidates themselves feel free to make a mental reservation in accepting the platform along with the nomination. The reason is, partly, that these "principles" are recognized as manufactured articles, and as bearing the impress either of the fears of demagogues or of the interests of private parties. In time clamor, and sophistry, and misrepresentation may produce an appearance of genuine popular sentiment behind the "principles"—as we have seen, to our cost, in the case of greenbacks, the dollar of the fathers, anti-Chinese legislation, pensions, and, we will venture to add, the tariff. But nobody is greatly disturbed, and intelligent observers are not surprised, when these idols are overthrown, for it is then discovered what a handful of priests maintained the shrine.

This overthrow would come sooner if the artificers of the "principles"—what we may call the platform lobby—were known to the public; just as the fate of the protective tariff would have been settled years ago if the pulling and hauling and grabbing and bribing by which each new measure was given its final shape upon the statute-book could have stood revealed. The platform would also regain its reputableness if it were possible to provide it with a sponsor for the execution of it. There is at present no more guarantee of this than there is that protected manufacturers will raise wages as their profits rise. In fact, no sooner does the party convention dissolve than the platform is already discarded. We saw in the late canvass Mr. Blaine offering a select little platform, of his own making, as a substitute for the Minneapolis creation; the silver issue practically abandoned; the tariff issue urged apologetically and defensively; and ridiculous stress laid upon the unpartisan State-bank plank in the Democratic platform. On the other hand, Mr. Cleveland's weight of character and personal sacrifice four years ago determined the real issue of the canvass. He did not invent a principle for his party, but he constrained that party to live up to its highest profession, and no more encouraging spectacle has been witnessed in our politics in this generation. Grant that Mr. Cleveland, like Mr. Reed, has chosen his "crowd," he is resolved not to lapse with it into hypocrisy or corruption, but will do what in him lies to make it "the best crowd," judged not by its membership alone, but by its actual conduct of the Government. Twice he has given his party the choice between standing by him and deserting him—on the question of the tariff and on the question of honest money; and twice have his countrymen

> "seen the obedient sphere
> By bravery's simple gravitation drawn."

*REPEAL THE SILVER-PURCHASE ACT.*

THE public have been led to believe by several communications and interviews in the newspapers that Senator Sherman will introduce and press a bill this winter to repeal the act of July 14, 1890, or so much of it as calls for the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of silver bullion per month, and the issue of Treasury notes therefor. The idea has gone abroad that the effect of such repeal would be to revive the Bland-Allison Act of 1878, which provided for the purchase and coinage of $2,000,000 worth of silver bullion per month, and Mr. Sherman has accordingly taken pains to say to the correspondent of the New York *Commercial Bulletin* that he desires to stop the purchase of silver al-

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together. It may be worth while to mention that section 11 of the Revised Statutes provides that "whenever an act is repealed which repealed a former act, such former act shall not thereby be revived, unless it shall be expressly so provided." Therefore the repeal of the so-called Sherman Act of 1890 would *ipso facto* accomplish just what the Senator now desires.

Mr. Sherman was asked by the same correspondent whether he had formulated any plan for supplying the country with currency in preference to the present system of silver purchases and Treasury-note issues. He replied that he did not care to say anything about that at present, since legislation on the subject must depend somewhat on the outcome of the Brussels Monetary Conference.

The question what shall take the place of the Silver-Purchase Act is the one most commonly asked by those who discuss the subject at all. Very few persons reflect that if *nothing* takes the place of the Silver-Purchase Act, gold will fill the vacuum naturally and inevitably. It is perhaps too much to expect that a people who have witnessed the monthly purchase of silver and the issue of paper currency thereon for fourteen years should now remember that there is any other way to provide the community with money. It is very natural that they should think that, with a cessation of this process, there would soon be no money, or insufficient money, to transact their daily business with. It is thus that the people have been wrongly educated by Congress until they have got into a frame of mind in which even the wisest Congressmen hesitate to adopt right measures lest they lose their seats at the hands of voters whom they have themselves misled.

Despite the prevailing misinformation, and whatever may be the consequences politically, the time has come to stop fooling with silver. Almost any other fooling would be better than that, because the buying of silver does cause the exportation of gold. Although a great many people fail to see how silver merely displaces gold under the present law (making the amount of money no larger, but only changing its character and changing it for the worse), yet all feel instinctively that an exportation of gold, setting in at this time of the year, when the balance of trade is usually in our favor and the movement of that metal is commonly westward, is something ominous. Certainly we should all like to see an importation rather than an exportation of it at this time.

Our Government is now buying 54,000,000 ounces per year of one of the products of the country—an article of merchandise which would otherwise be exported and would enter into our balance of trade with the world. At eighty-five cents per ounce, this represents $46,000,000 per annum. Our balance of foreign trade is $46,000,000 less than it would otherwise be, and this vacuum must be filled with gold or with something equally good. If the country were making any use of this purchased silver, the case would not be so bad. But it is making no use of it at all: it does not even use it to redeem its notes with. On the contrary, it is incurring expense all the time in taking care of it. Worse still, we are getting a bad name and getting into bad credit abroad by having it on hand. Foreigners who do not see or appreciate the bad education that has been going on among us these fourteen years, and who suppose that our finances are conducted, as theirs are, by the wisest men in the country, naturally think that we are fools and that their money is unsafe here. So they gradually call it in. This withdrawal of foreign capital checks the spirit of enterprise, and if it does not actually produce hard times, it prevents us from obtaining the degree of prosperity that we might otherwise reach. It should be borne in mind too—the fact should never be lost sight of—that in the present nervous condition of the money market any accident, like a partial crop failure or another Baring crisis, would almost certainly result in panic and disaster. The United States ought to be the strongest country in the world financially, not excepting England, and would be so but for this dread of silver, which weighs upon the holders of capital, both here and abroad, like a nightmare.

The Brussels Monetary Conference has now fairly entered upon its labors. It would be entirely proper, and it might even be helpful, for the United States to stop the purchase of silver while the Conference is deliberating. If it be true, as some people believe, that Europe (and especially England) is suffering from the decline in the price of silver, it might be useful to let it drop a few more points. At all events, there is no reason why the whole weight of the burden should rest on our shoulders. The news from the Conference is not particularly encouraging. It is true the English delegates have declared their adhesion to the American resolution which recites that "it is desirable that some measures should be found for increasing the use of silver in the currency system of the nations." This is an expression of sentiment, a sort of "pious opinion," consistent with the maintenance of the single gold standard by Great Britain. On the other hand, the German and Austrian delegates have announced that their Governments cannot change their monetary systems, while those of Russia, Italy, Rumania, Switzerland, and Greece have notified the Conference that under their instructions they are not permitted to vote on the resolution at all. The despatches say that the American delegates are gratified at the prospect of an earnest and sympathetic discussion of the question. If they find a sympathetic feeling for silver at Brussels, we hope they will cultivate it sedulously, and get it extended to tin and pig-iron and all other depressed metals. Meanwhile we hope that Senator Sherman, who is under no illusions respecting the Brussels Conference, and under no political stress of weather, will promptly introduce and press his bill to repeal the act of 1890.

## *POLITICS AND CURRENCY.*

THERE is one defect, in our position before the International Monetary Conference, which of itself would be fatal to any agreement between the United States and European countries, although no mention has as yet been made of it. We mean the fact that our standard of value is "in politics," and is one of the issues submitted to the popular vote at every Federal election. This condition of things is unknown in any of the countries from which we are seeking joint action in establishing a common bimetallic standard. In all of them the regulation of currency is left wholly in the hands of scientific experts and financiers. The opinion of the voters is not asked on it, and the voters do not seek to express any opinion on it. It is assumed in the politics of all these countries that all, high and low, rich and poor, are interested in having a stable medium of exchange, and the decision of the question what this medium shall be is given up to men who have made this subject a special study. The only approach to popular interference with the currency in Great Britain, within the present century, has been in the discussions over the powers which should be given to banks in the matter of issuing notes, and the security which should be exacted for the redemption of the notes in coin. But the question in what sort of coin the notes should be redeemed has never come anywhere near the polls on election day.

As a general rule, the history of currency in the countries now represented at the Conference, since the French Revolution, has been that of a series of changes from silver to gold and from gold to silver, caused by changes in the comparative value of the metals; but the time and mode of these changes and the necessity of them have been left to scientific men, charged by public opinion with the single duty of seeing that the money in which the community made its contracts and sales, continued from year to year to have, as nearly as circumstances would permit, the same purchasing power. No signs of popular affection for one metal as a child of misfortune, or of distrust of another metal as the companion of the rich, has ever appeared in any of them. If, for instance, it had been proposed by the Gladstonians at the last election to take a vote on the question of bimetallism, it would probably have created a financial panic of the worst kind in London, as a sign that the party had gone crazy, and would, if it got into power, ruin the country.

This was our happy condition also down to 1873. Silver was demonetized in that year, under the influences which had

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regulated our coinage ever since the foundation of the Government—that is, the opinion of experts. The people at large concerned themselves very little more about the matter than about the Coast Survey or the Nautical Almanac, and would undoubtedly have continued to do so but for the poison infused into our politics by the issue of the legal-tender paper during the war. This prepared the popular mind to look on currency as a proper subject of party politics, and a few politicians had no difficulty in bringing the question of silver into the political arena, and there it has remained ever since, the football of the two parties, and probably the cause of more raging folly than all the other bodies known to chemistry.

Now, it would be childish to suppose that foreign financiers have not followed with close attention the course of our currency mania. They are probably more minutely acquainted with it, as seeing it with clearer eyes, than any of the American delegates, every one of whom has had so much politics mixed with his currency during the past ten years that he hardly knows the taste of one from the taste of the other. The foreigners know very well that we are in a bad fix and desire their help to get out of it, but they know also that the opinions and desires of a rich nation of 65,000,000 about currency questions must always be listened to with respect and attention. There is hardly a doubt that they would all eagerly accept our aid, not in relieving a distressed metal, but in making the standard of value of the civilized world more stable, did we give them a chance. But they have not overlooked the fact that our currency is still in politics—that is, is voted on or liable to be voted on every two years at the election of members of Congress—and that the enormous store of silver we have now in the Treasury vaults has been accumulated not under the influence of financial, but of political considerations, not because our experts recommended it, but because a large body of voters who know little or nothing about the matter demanded it, and in spite of the warnings and protests of nearly every instructed person in the country. We have only to state these facts to show that an international agreement with regard to the coinage which depended for its maintenance and success on the fidelity of every one of the parties to it, would practically put the currency of every country which adhered to it into the American political arena, and compel it to watch our elections with the utmost anxiety, lest the result of the vote should break up the compact. To suppose that France, Germany, and England are going to expose their standard of value to a risk of this sort is to suppose that their business men have lost all their sagacity. It is, in fact, a ridiculous supposition.

The lesson of the situation is, that we shall never be able to come to any agreement about currency with foreign nations until we shall have put currency questions back again into the hands of our experts, with but one mandate—to give us as stable a standard of value as the nature of metals and the nature of the human mind will permit, and to spare no expense for that purpose. When that is done, and their scientific men have nobody to convince or persuade but our scientific men, international currency agreements may be possible. They will not be possible as long as the length of our yardstick and the size of our quart pots may be changed at any election

## *THE GLORIFICATION OF ATHLETICS.*

THERE is no doubt that the college athletic year just closed brought certain features of intercollegiate sports to a prominence never before witnessed. The professional spirit in these contests has been displayed in an unprecedented degree, both in the unwonted length and severity of preliminary training, and more particularly in the charges of foul play and one-sided umpiring openly and freely made, with what justice we cannot say. So, too, has the gambling mania attached itself to college athletics with an excess and extravagance not seen earlier. Of course, the crowds and enthusiasm, the glory of the victors and the shame of the vanquished, the vulgarity and lawlessness of a lot of boys let loose in a great city, have all been greater than ever before. Greater, too, we would add, has been the swamping throughout the entire year of all other undergraduate ideals by the one predominant and overmastering athletic ideal.

To our mind this is the greatest evil which the modern development of college athletics has brought in its train. The other incidental evils, often enough remarked upon, may perhaps be fairly said to find a set-off in the undoubted improvement in health and in morale which has come in with the new attention to physical training. But we know of no compensating advantage to put over against the distorted conception of life, and particularly of college life, the false standard of individual and college distinction, and the evident retarding of young men in arriving at serious and worthy ideals, all of which have been involved in the increasing glorification of college athletics. For it must be understood that the absorption of our educated young men in contests of physical strength and skill is no longer confined to their four undergraduate years; it reaches back to the fitting-schools and further, until it is literally a fact that sturdy boys just out of their kilts are taught to look forward to getting "on the team" as the noblest thing to strive for. Who will deny that when thousands of boys from that age up to graduation are giving the athletic ideal the highest place, the most grave consequences to character are involved?

It is a frequent remark of observant foreigners that the American young man of eighteen to twenty-five years is a singularly uninteresting being. It is not that they are particularly struck in him with the immaturity which is perhaps unavoidable in that cartilaginous period. Such immaturity they have been familiar with in the young men of their own countries, but with it they have been accustomed to associate a fine abandon in the avowal and pursuit of artistic or literary or scientific or political ideals. These they find to be conspicuous by their absence in the generality of American youth, and some of them have thought they saw an explanation of the fact in the too exclusive devotion to physical prowess. We believe it to be true that young men are later than they were one or two generations ago in arriving at that conception of life which is finally to enlist their enthusiasm and their powers. This may be in part due to those changed economic conditions which have brought about the retardation of marriage, for example; but we think that at least a plausible case could be made out for the theory that the modern supremacy of the athletic ideal is to be held partly accountable for it.

Color is at any rate given to that theory by observing how the thing works in the case of some of the most famous of college athletes. Meaning to be entirely impersonal, we believe it to be the fact that, as a rule, the men who have run glorious athletic careers at college, are considerably slower than their fellows in settling down to the serious work of life. The old fascination is still upon them. They gravitate, as by second nature, back to the football field, as amateurs, as paid coachers, as passed-masters in the game. In the same reluctance to be gone they linger at the baseball games and hang about the rowing-tank. This is but natural. After developing a pair of shoulders and a biceps which have brought him four years of purest glory, it is hard for a man to realize that he has come to a point where he no longer compels the huzzas of the crowd. So, in too many cases, the result is that most melancholy one of a graduate returning to the scenes of his sweetest triumphs; going for a year or two, with the laurels yet green upon his brows, and getting the old heart-filling "hep! hep!" from the undergraduates; then figuring as a sage adviser, and finally sinking to the humiliation of being pointed out as an "old-timer," a "back number," one whom the development of the game and the flight of years have left high and dry.

We think it fair to infer that the harmful effects of the glorification of athletics thus distinctly traceable in individual cases pass over to many others in as baneful, if not in as conspicuous, a manner. The Greeks knew something about gymnastics and the consequences of a high degree of physical culture, and Plato saw the necessity of putting some limitations upon their pursuit in his ideal republic. He considered the "mere athlete" as little

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better than a "savage," and distinctly declared the effect of gymnastic training carried to great lengths to be to make the mind "dull and feeble." We do not know how much weight Plato carries with the undergraduate mind of to day, but we can reinforce his authority with one which no young man will lightly set at defiance—none other than that of some of the brightest and, what is more, prettiest among the girls. Many of them we have heard to admit in private, and some to declare with vigor in public, that college boys are getting to be a stupid set, having nothing to talk about but "in-shoots" and "recovers" and "touch-downs." Such young ladies, of course, have their own particular enthusiasms and ideals, but they are foolish enough to maintain that a passion for music, for example, or for art or literature, is far more interesting and worthy, even for purposes of conversation alone, than the one subject which now seems to drive everything else out of the young male mind. We certainly hope they will come in increasing numbers to the help of Plato against the stupefying influence of unlimited athletics.

At any rate, we must hope that, either through surfeit and reaction from excess, or through the rousing of college authorities to their duty in the premises, a change may come. In some way the present maladjustment of college ideas ought to be corrected, so that a good scholar need not apologize for attention to his studies, or a lover of letters or art or science be obliged to point to some physical infirmity as his sufficient excuse for not having done his part in upholding the true glory of the college in the scrimmages of the football field.

## *NEW FEATURES IN RAILWAY FINANCE.*

THE plan of reorganization of the Chicago, St. Paul and Kansas City Railway has a number of features novel in American railway finance which deserve study and discussion. This company has had a chequered career. It has often been charged against Mr. Stickney that his ambition led him to build an unnecessary railroad, one which must continue to prove a thorn in the side of the trans-Mississippi companies until the traffic grows up to the combined carrying capacity. At least it is true that the railway has not been able to earn interest on its cost, though its promoters feel confident about the future. Three years ago the bondholders agreed to fund their coupons, these coupons forming a "priority loan" on which interest has been paid. The funding plan expires by limitation next January, making necessary a reorganization. Under these circumstances an English committee has formulated a plan modelled after the English method of dealing with railway debentures and preference stocks.

Under the Illinois statute of 1885, a new corporation, the Chicago Great Western, was formed, to which the old road should be leased and into whose shares the old Kansas City Railway bonds and stocks should be exchanged. Each old first-mortgage bondholder is offered $500 in 4 per cent. debenture stock, and $600 in 5 per cent. preferred stock A. The new company secures payment of "interest" on the debenture stock, and a fair accounting for the preferred, by executing a deed of trust to some trust company. This trust deed provides (a) that in case of liquidation the net assets shall be applicable to the new stocks or securities in their order; (b) that holders shall from their own number select a Finance Committee which shall have general supervision and control of the company's finances; (c) that further issues of debenture or A stocks shall be made only by a majority vote, or, in the case of an issue of bonds, by a two-thirds vote, subject also to approval of the Finance Committee; (d) that in case of a default in debenture interest, the trustee under the deed of trust shall, when required by the Finance Committee, appoint a receiver to apply the income and manage the property subject to the control of the debenture and A holders, the stockholders having no voice; (e) that in case the company makes good its default, possession shall revert to the company. Any surplus above debenture interest shall go absolutely to holders of A stock; any failure to distribute all such earnings shall also be an infraction of the trust deed and bring the same penalties. Present income and stockholders are assessed, the money so raised to be used to buy a branch road, to pay floating-debt, and for meeting rolling-stock warrants; the priority loan of $2,820,000 to remain as a mortgage as at present.

It will at once be seen that this plan is a departure from our customary methods about railway mortgages. Though the idea has been abandoned in Great Britain, we in the United States continue to regard railroad bonds as foreclosable. In theory they are; in practice they are not. A mortgage upon a house and one upon a railway are different in their real nature, no matter how closely the legal language of the one resembles that of the other. Practically, the railway cannot stop running, so its mortgage is really upon its earning power as a carrier, and not upon its plant; for the plant, unlike a house or factory, is useless for any other business. The English law recognizes this distinction; so English debentures cannot be foreclosed. The Stickney reorganization attempts to modify American theory to conform to these facts. So far as it puts the real state of things clearly before the bondholders and the people of the United States it is to be heartily commended, for it sets a precedent which, under the criticism of time and experience, may be followed in other cases, with the result of securing in our railway law and finance that progress which we see in other departments of business and law.

The plan evidently intends if possible to make the debenture shares partly a bond and partly a stock. How far this is legal is a question, though it may prove workable in actual practice. There have been attempts before to give to preferred stock the nature of a bond. The St. Louis and San Francisco first-preferred stockholders have only just given up their claim to 7 per cent. guaranteed dividends, under a series of defeats. A stockholder cannot be a creditor and a partner at the same time. Nevertheless all future creditors have notice of the deed of trust, whatever that may amount to. Yet something of the kind has proved a workable theory in England, where stockholders lose control of their property if they do not pay the debenture interest—as is also provided for in the Chicago and Great Western plan. The success of such a form of railway organization depends, even more than is usual in the United States, upon the assent of all concerned, for the plan is really a change in the articles of co-partnership, if that expression may be used of a corporation. There are many instances where the equities of former bondholders have, in a reorganization, been recognized by giving preferred stock in exchange—indeed, the most of our existing preferred stock represents bond losses; but holders have been content to become stockholders simply. The Chicago Great Western plan is an endeavor to confer greater rights upon such former bond-owners by providing that their debentures shall have a sure payment of interest (not called debenture "dividend," be it noted) under definite penalties, and that the A stockholders shall receive all the contingent earnings, whatever they may be, without the possibility of diversion by the directors. No doubt the English committee thought they were checking an American abuse in this last provision, requiring distribution of all earnings; and no doubt they felt secure in inserting such a section, since they also permit a further issue of debentures or other securities to raise capital; yet, after all, they may wish they had left such payment somewhat discretionary when the road comes to need more money.

Public interest will probably centre around that feature of the plan which provides harmoniously for a transfer of control without litigation from the common to the guaranteed stockholders, should misfortune bring about a suspension of debenture payments. Its practical working would prove an experiment which railroad and financial men would gladly see tried. The feature has in its favor the fact that it attempts to bring our railway and legal procedure into line with modern transportation and commercial principles, though its complete adoption would work a revolution in our established law.

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## THE RELIGIOUS QUESTION IN FRANCE.

PARIS, November 15, 1892.

IN attempting to analyze broadly the political situation in France, I have had more than once to allude to the religious question. The fact is, that this question is mixed up with every other, and that, by its wide ramifications, it is undoubtedly one of the principal factors of what may be called the psychology of our country. It is of the first importance to try to indicate in what it consists. To do so exhaustively would need a volume; but I will endeavor to set it forth, in so far as it is distinctly political, by a rapid sketch of the position of the Roman Catholic Church in reference to the Republic—that is to say, the French Church and the Republican party in France.

The origin of the present state of things is known to all. Before 1789 the clergy were a separate order in the State, enjoying numerous privileges and possessing considerable property. The Revolution, in abolishing the order, suppressed its privileges and confiscated its property. In addition to these measures others were taken, so that at the end of the revolutionary period the Church in France found itself in every way in the most complete state of chaos. Bonaparte, when First Consul, wished to put an end to this state of things. Negotiations were entered into for this purpose with the Court of Rome, and the Concordat of 1801 was the result. The Concordat itself was afterwards supplemented by a law which is known in our history under the name of the "Organic Articles." We have not at present to examine in detail these articles and laws; we need only refer to those which assume importance by their relation to present circumstances. It should first be noticed that the Concordat is an arrangement between two parties, a diplomatic treaty, in fact, signed between two Powers which accordingly cannot modify it except by common accord. On the other hand, the members of the clergy have become, in a sense, the paid functionaries of the State. The appointment of bishops is made after consultation and agreement between the Government and the Court of Rome, and the curés appointed by the bishops have to be accepted by the Government, while both bishops and curés receive a State stipend in exchange for the revenues formerly confiscated, which the Church pledges itself never to claim. This very fact of the bishops and the curés being appointed with salaries fixed by law places them in a position similar to that occupied by other functionaries of the State, and gives the State the means of enforcing obedience on their part in any case in which their attitude may have given offence.

If the Concordat has, since its conclusion, been always the basis of action in matters affecting the Catholic Church in France, there have been and are many other factors at work in any questions that have occurred and do occur from time to time for settlement, so that it is impossible to consider the Concordat as altogether apart from these. There is, first of all, what may be called the moral situation. The French population is almost entirely Catholic, and this consideration alone would suffice to give the Church great importance. Then, again, the Governments that have succeeded each other since the beginning of the century have been, in general, well disposed towards the Church. It is true, the July Monarchy was not religious in its sympathies; but the Restoration, both the First and the Second Empires, even the Republic of 1848, then that of 1870 at the beginning, not only showed respect to the Church, but were often enough very religious in their sympathies. From this attitude there resulted a state of things favorable to the members of the Church. For instance, the ministers of religion were dispensed from all military service; the law of 1870 in reference to primary education allowed them to be teachers in the schools, and dispensed them from compliance with certain regulations compulsory in the case of laics; and, to quote again from the history of the educational question, a time came when all the primary schools fell into the power of the Church, and one order in particular, that of the Jesuits, opened a number of educational establishments which soon became very powerful.

Things began to change some years after the proclamation of the Third Republic, at a moment when the latter, ceasing to be a Provisional Government awaiting the restoration of the monarchy, passed into the hands of a definite Republican party. Before long there was open warfare between the Government and the Church, and the struggle went on increasing in intensity in proportion as the power veered more to the Radical side. The causes of this change are manifold, some being related to the Republican principle itself, others to the Church. The Republican party as a whole is not well disposed towards religion, and least of all towards the Catholic Church. First of all pushing it in the direction of extreme measures, there is the kind of contradiction that exists between the Republican principles and those of the Church. The absolute sovereignty of the people harmonizes badly with the ideas of obedience taught by the Church. Then, the development of the formula, "liberty and equality," in the manner in which the Republicans conceive it—the notion of the absolute respect due to liberty of thought—leads to the desire not to offend the Protestants by favors bestowed on the Catholics, as also not to impose religious forms on free-thinkers; and so by degrees comes the desire for the absolute secularization of the State. The recollections of the Revolution have also to be taken into account. The Revolution struck at the Church. Consequently, those who call themselves its children are likely to imitate its action. And lastly, Republicans dread the influence the clergy may acquire over the consciences and therefore over the votes of the people; and this it is which has chiefly contributed to exasperate them, the Church having often assumed an attitude openly hostile to the Government.

Independently even of the hostility that exists perhaps necessarily between the principles of the Church and those of the republican democracy, the Church has private griefs against the latter. It cannot forget that the Revolution has lowered it in every way, both by attacking its influence and by subjecting it to the civil power and confiscating its property. Hence it is naturally disposed to fight against those who declare themselves the children of the Revolution and proclaim their desire to continue and complete its work; and it is accordingly constrained to ally itself with parties purely political, that seek, in the name of conservative principles, to hinder the development and application of the ideas born of the Revolution. In this manner may be explained the alliance concluded between the Church and the royalist parties—an alliance all the closer because the latter, realizing what advantage they might get from having such an auxiliary, for a long time spared no trouble, and let no opportunity escape, to identify their own cause with that of the Church.

This sketch, though summary enough, will suffice to indicate the multiplicity of causes affecting the conflict that we are now witnessing between the civil authority and the religious element. In order to exemplify the character of the conflict, we need only draw attention to certain incidents that have occurred. Thus, at the time of the amendment of the laws on army recruitment, the seminarists saw themselves placed under the common obligation of military service from which they had hitherto been exempt. By a change in the laws on education, ecclesiastics were placed on the same footing with laics by the annulling of the diplomas hitherto accorded them through the Church authorities, and by the exacting from them of the same diplomas as those compulsory on laics. After having thus taken away a privilege, unjustifiable enough, by a rigorous application of the principle of State neutrality in religious matters, the Government forbade religious teaching in the State schools, and prohibited members of religious orders from keeping elementary schools, which latter were all to be secularized within a given period. No exception was to be made (and this is worth noting) even in cases where a municipality might demand a continuation of the *status in quo*. Sometimes the attack on the Church was more direct still. For instance, the Government obliged all religious orders to provide themselves with an official authorization; and certain bodies whose influence was more particularly feared, the Jesuits in particular, were forced to break up their organization.

Side by side with these principal measures figures a long series of minor incidents and petty annoyances, wherein plainly appears with equal clearness the partiality of the Government and of the majority. Not only was the public-worship budget systematically reduced, but no occasion was lost of suspending, by way of discipline, the stipends of ecclesiastics whose anti-Republican proceedings had been denounced by some offended Deputy. More or less direct encouragement was given to the mania for secularization shown by the city of Paris, the municipal council of which, composed of ultra-radical members, thought fit to replace the sisters who served in the hospitals by lay nurses, perhaps less devoted, and at any rate costing the budget much dearer. The Church of St. Geneviève was taken away from the Catholic body, as had been done in the time of the first Revolution and during the reign of Louis Philippe, in order to convert it into a Pantheon consecrated to the worship of great men. The sort of need the Government seemed to have to show itself disagreeable to Catholicism gave rise at times to the most preposterous proposals. For instance, the National Assembly in 1873, at a time when the Republic was not yet Republican, had voted of public utility the works being carried on for the erection of the Church of the Sacred Heart, which is still building in Paris. In 1884 a Deputy demanded that this measure should be repealed, and M. Goblet, then Minister, mounted the tribune in order to declare that the National Assembly had evidently been in the wrong since the vote had reference to a church.

One thing comes to put an obstacle in the way of the Government's aims, and to prevent it from proceeding to too radical measures in reference to the Church and the ecclesiastics. It is the fact of the existence of the Concordat, which it cannot touch of its own authority. To pass by this barrier it

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would be necessary for France to break completely with the Court of Rome, and to sever all the ties which attach the clergy to the Government—in a word, to effect a complete separation between the Church and the State. Will such an extreme measure as this be resorted to? It is probable. Many of the Republican party are demanding it—and it will perhaps be necessary in the near future if things continue to go on as they have done for the last few years.

It is true that the attitude of the clergy in reference to the Government is tending at the present time to transform itself. We have already pointed out the instructions of the Pope as to the indifference of the Church in so far as forms of government are concerned, and as to the necessity incumbent upon all French Catholics to accept loyally the established order of things. But in vain will French Catholicism, in obedience to its supreme head, ally itself with the Republic—the latter will not cease to feel a certain hostility against the Church; and unless the old conservative parties, converted to the republican form of government, become preponderant in Parliament, it is more than probable that the campaign against the Church will continue and will end sooner or later in disestablishment.

Such a measure as this, however, cannot be taken without preparation, for it will probably entail numerous difficulties both for the Church and for the State. We do not number among these difficulties the question one hears raised by Catholics in reference to Church property. The stipends now paid to ecclesiastics are, it is said, by the very terms of the Concordat, a compensation in lieu of the revenues of which the Church was despoiled at the time of the Revolution. From the moment the disestablishment of the Church causes the stipends to be suppressed, some other equivalent compensation will have to be found. In strict equity this would certainly be the case, but in political practice equity is very little considered: and examples of spoliation of this kind are numerous in history. It is certain that the Church in France, once deprived of its present resources, will find itself in a very awkward position. Will it succeed in obtaining the millions of which it now disposes annually? This is not at all certain, and even if it succeed, it will not do so without difficulty. The first consequence would naturally be the suppression of the millions which the Catholics send each year to Rome as Peter's pence; and this suppression would not fail to embarrass the Papacy considerably. Next, even should the Church in France be able to provide for its own wants, this would not happen without its first passing through a terrible crisis, which would produce its counter effect upon the social condition of the country, and so might even embarrass the Government. In consequence of the separation, the latter might possibly have other troubles to deal with, since, as soon as the members of the clergy cease to be State officers, it will no longer have any control over them, and there will be nothing to prevent them, if they think proper, from taking an active part in politics and using their great influence to create embarrassment for the Government. Other difficulties might be mentioned which it is possible to foresee, but what I have just said will no doubt suffice to show that the religious question, though at the present time in France of capital importance by reason of the hostilities often engaged in between the Church and the State, is not yet ripe for solution, inasmuch as the separation itself would not, so far as can be seen, bring peace. S.

# Correspondence.

## THE COLLEGES AND THE PRESIDENT-ELECT.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The students of this University have adopted the enclosed resolutions, which I hope you will bring to the attention of college men.

Very respectfully, George T. Winston.

University of North Carolina,
Chapel Hill, N. C., November 21, 1892.

"The students of the University of North Carolina, as a slight token of their appreciation of the character and services of a man who deliberately surrendered the Presidency in order to instruct the people in correct principles of government and especially of taxation—who in short preferred to teach the people rather than rule them—do hereby resolve to send ten delegates to the second inauguration of Grover Cleveland, and do earnestly request all the colleges and universities of the United States to unite in a grand student demonstration in honor of our great political teacher."

## THE ELECTION.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The late election may be regarded from two points of view, which may be called the subjective and the objective, or, in more popular language, as to what it indicates and as to what it promises to accomplish. As an index of the character and intentions of the people it is beyond all praise. As a revolt from hypocrisy and falsehood, against the emptiness of a party machinery from which the main reason of existence has departed, and which is kept alive by the thirst for power, trading for the support of private interests—as a verdict in favor of honesty and manliness of purpose—it makes one proud to belong to the same country and people. But if we turn to the objective side, the result is by no means so satisfactory. The Democratic party is in an almost ludicrous position of not knowing what to do with its victory. What hope is there of any wise or well-considered or combined action from such a disorganized mob as the next House of Representatives will be? It would have been as reasonable to send our 300,000 volunteers to the front during the civil war without any officers, and expect them to organize the fighting when they got there. Whatever was the courage and intelligence and patriotism of those troops, we know that it was West Point which saved the country. If there is one thing more hopeless than the House itself, it is to expect that it will receive any effective guidance from the will of the people as expressed in the election.

Meantime the papers are discussing the formation of Mr. Cleveland's Cabinet. Of what consequence is it to anybody? The members will be nothing more than head clerks. There is a languid interest felt as to what State or what individual will get a Cabinet office, but nobody supposes for a moment that it will make any real difference in the policy or government of the country. The French Chambers are going to pieces, notwithstanding the presence of the Ministry, but that is because the Ministers are the creatures of the Chamber, set up and pulled down by the freaks of the constantly dissolving groups. The strength of our position is that the Cabinet, being the appointees of the President, himself the elect of the whole nation, would be wholly independent of Congress and would wield an authority which, so long as it was approved by the country, would be sufficient to bring Congress into working order.

Whether it will come in my time may be doubtful, but that the members of the Cabinet will sooner or later, from sheer necessity and on the demand of the country, be admitted to Congress, is, I consider, as certain as any piece of political evolution can be.

Gamaliel Bradford.

Boston, November 26, 1892.

## WHO ELECT CONGRESSMEN?

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I am aware that the columns of the *Nation* are not open to "funny things," but in view of the great Democratic "landslide" of the 8th inst., the following actual occurrence is worth recording. Yesterday, in the Third District Court, before Chief-Justice Zane, an alien made application for citizenship. He had answered all questions satisfactorily when his Honor, as a last and final test of the applicant's fitness for citizenship, asked him this question: "Who elect the Congressmen in the United States?" "The Democrats," was the prompt reply. The Court and the bar could not repress their laughter, while the applicant stood amazed, and failed to see why all were so merry. But he was admitted to citizenship.

Alfales Young.

Salt Lake City, November 18, 1892.

## THE TARIFF AND THE WORKINGMAN'S MIND.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Some one has said, and it sounds like Walter Bagehot, that the greatest pain the human mind is capable of is the reception of a new idea. Ten years ago, while in the employ of what is now called the Illinois Steel Company, I lifted up a well-nigh solitary voice against the iniquities of the tariff. Everybody about me believed so religiously in the blessings of said tariff that I was saved, I was told afterwards, from being pitched into the lake only on the ground that I was a bookman, and further acquaintance with hot metal, ingots, and bloems would carry with it a better appreciation of the duty on rails. In 1882, to speak disrespectfully of a high tariff implied that one was in urgent need of a commission *de lunatico inquirendo*. But the thoughts of men have widened with the process of the suns, and the workingmen of the Illinois Steel Company this month voted against the very doctrine they upheld ten years ago so valiantly: the State, the county, the city, the ward, the very precincts in which they chiefly live went Democratic.

Everybody knows that the American workingman is, as a rule, ingenious, thrifty, honorable, good-natured, and kind-hearted, but the last election shows that it requires a long time to get one economic idea out of his head and another in. Makers of party platforms would do well to bear in mind this psychological fact: that the American workingman can be depended on to recognize the great truths of political economy, but an allowance of about ten years should be given him in most cases to make up his mind. E. L. M.

Windsor Park, Chicago, November 19, 1892.

## THE OHIO BALLOT.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: In your recent editorial on secret voting you speak of Ohio as having an absolutely

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secret ballot. No doubt the framers of the law intended to make it as perfect as possible, but that they did not succeed is plain from what follows. At the top of the ticket in our ballots, under the emblem of each party, are circles in which the voter of a straight ticket may place his X. Now the Board of Elections of this county (the law requiring sample ballots to be furnished them by the Secretary of State) placed their facsimile signatures on the reverse side *over the circles referred to*. The consequence was that the election officer who tore off the stubs and put the tickets in the box could tell with certainty how the voter of a straight ticket marked his ballot. In conversation with the man who took the tickets in the precinct in which I voted, he admitted this, and told how, as he received the ticket from the elector, he could inspect one side and then the other as he folded it to put it in the box. The position of the facsimiles made it impossible to fold the tickets in any other manner. Had they been placed at the middle of the ticket, or near the lower margin instead, the difficulty would have been almost entirely obviated.

There is nothing in the law to prevent Boards of Election placing the signatures anywhere they choose on the back of the ticket. To be sure, the officers of the election are sworn not to reveal any information they may gather in the performance of their duties. But is a partisan's oath any more reliable than his word? For one man to be able to know how an election is going is one too many.

Yours truly, JOSEPH V. COLLINS.

MIAMI UNIVERSITY, OXFORD, O.,
November 19, 1892.

## THE ETHICS OF PUBLISHING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I see that the Messrs. Appleton advertise in the last *Nation* a new edition of 'An Englishman in Paris.' I am one of many who have bought that work during the past few months under the supposition that, as it was issued by a reputable house, it was a genuine book of recollections. But you have recently announced that it is by an obscure journalist named Vandam, who not only is too young to have known many of the earlier celebrities of whom he gossips so familiarly, but is not, presumably, on intimate terms with contemporary celebrities. I think, sir, that if this is true, the Appletons, far from spreading further copies of this fraud, ought to take back the copies which have already been bought by a confiding public. It is needless to say that cooked-up volumes of reminiscences, however cleverly done, have no value: who would buy, for instance, Pepys's Diary were it known to be the product of the inventive brain of a later journalist? Doubtless, the publishers who accepted the manuscript of 'An Englishman in Paris' believed it to be genuine, and their American representatives, the Appletons, merely trusted in them; but now that the fraud has been exposed, it does not become any reputable firm to continue to issue this work as if it were genuine. T.

NOVEMBER 22, 1892.

## BALLAD HISTORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Will you allow me to say that while I am glad to find Dame Barbara "warming the cockles" of your critic's heart, I object to the implication, in the *Nation* of November 24, as regards Whittier? Ballads are not written after an historical investigation. I do not suppose that a single one of the most famous of the Scotch ballads would be found historically accurate: I know that was the late Sir Daniel Wilson's opinion. An heroic flash stirs the heart of the poet. Is he expected to analyze it and discover whether the light was born of heaven or a penny match? It is his function to recognize and perpetuate the illumination, and Whittier did it.

All literature, of prose and verse, is open to such mischances. We have all suffered them, and must bear with them, as with other imperfect mortal conditions.

CAROLINE H. DALL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 26, 1892.

## THE LA COSA MAP, AND OTHERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: By way of comment on your remarks on a former letter of mine on the Paris Exhibition of Early American Maps, permit me to say that M. Marcel's reasons for doubting the authenticity of Juan de la Cosa's map—reasons bearing on the representation of the West Indies on that chart—could have been set forth only in considerable detail and with the aid of graphic representation. On the other hand, M. Marcel says that his familiarity with the said map was, until lately, limited to a reproduction of it in Jomard's Atlas, the sole facsimile of it known in France, and that it is only by means of the photographed reproduction of it now being made in Madrid that he will be able to decide whether La Cosa's map is an original or a copy made by a foreigner.

As to the question of misspelt Spanish words which figure on that map, I will quote what Mr. Harrisse says in his 'Discovery of America,' p. 415:

"When one sees so many names to which no meaning can be ascribed, although the letters in a number of instances are legible, and when this imperfect nomenclature is also seen in regions which we know to have been visited by the cartographer whose name figures on the map, it becomes a question whether the manuscript chart preserved in the National Museum at Madrid is really an autograph of Juan de La Cosa or a mere copy of the time made by some one else."

Mr. Harrisse thinks that the fact that La Cosa's being a Basque by birth has nothing to do with the misspelling, as the words exclusively Spanish are properly rendered. The words referred to by Mr. Harrisse are doubtless such as do not seem to belong to any known language; particularly in the island of Cuba, where they have the appearance of such meaningless strokes as would be penned by one trying to imitate writing which he did not understand. Juan de La Cosa was born at Santoña in Biscay, and, Biscay having been since 1379 an integral part of the kingdom of Castile, it is highly probable that the Spanish language was as familiar to him as the Biscayan.

It is a mistake to think that the early Spanish cartographers made but a few maps, or that they made them all themselves. Mentions in historical documents, as well as the ordinances in the collection of laws regarding map-making (although eight or ten years later), clearly indicate that the Spanish and Portuguese pilots made their chief living by making maps. They constructed an original one which they frequently intrusted to copyists who were good designers and miniaturists, but no scientific cartographers. These were chiefly Majorcans or Italians, as is shown by the early Portuguese charts. It is natural that copies so made should contain names absolutely misspelt, and the La Cosa map, although evidently authentic, may well not be autographic.

The Portuguese portolano of 1502 (or the King Chart, as it is called) was reproduced almost entirely, and particularly the portion of importance to Americans, by photolithography, in the Bulletin de Géographie Historique et Descriptive, more than five years ago (Paris, 1887). Besides, a reduced outline of the entire map appeared in the Paris *Illustration* of July 2, 1892.

Whether the "green globe" can or cannot dispute the claim of the so-called Da Vinci Gores "to be the earliest known in which the word America is written by human hand," Mr. Harrisse places the Da Vinci under the year 1519, and the green globe four years before, *sub anno* 1515.

The "globe doré" does not contain the "Sea of Verrazzano." "Terra Francesca nuper lustrata" (an inscription appearing on globes only after Verrazzano's expedition) aids us in surmising that Verrazzano's indications inspired it.

It seems that the globe of Franciscus Monachus is not the earliest instance in the revival of the notion that North America and Asia were one. Was it a revival in cartography or spherography? No map or globe or gores can be found in the first twenty-five years of the discovery of America on which the newly found regions are not entirely separated from Asia. Again, Mr. Harrisse has shown conclusively, from Schöner's own words, that this blending of America with Asia is a notion which originated altogether in globe-making with the Nuremberg mathematician so late as 1523, and that his globe of the latter date must have exhibited such a configuration.

The information that the charts of Gutierrez and Le Testu (Nos. 19 and 26 of Catalogue) have been reproduced causes surprise in France. Further information on this point would be appreciated. As to a reproduction of the portolano by Viegas (No. 1 of Catalogue), only the small reduced fragment inserted by Kohl in his 'Discovery of Maine' is known here.

The map loaned by the Navy Department, and entered as No. 131 of the Catalogue in the Exhibition of Early American Maps, is described by Harrisse in his 'Notes sur la Nouvelle France,' No. 219.

No. 161 has been wrongly stated to be first among the maps figuring at the Exhibition to make mention of the town of Chicago. A closer inspection has shown (No. 137), "Amérique Septentrionale," by J. B. L. Franquelin, dated 1686, on which figure both Checagou and Checagou River. This map is described under No. 231 in 'Notes sur la Nouvelle France.'

In answer to the remark that the Paris Committee would have done well had it solicited a copy of the Harvard map, 1684 (in which Chicago figures), it must be said that the Paris exposition was intended only to exhibit the cartographical treasures of the Paris collections, private and public, in so far as America is concerned. If it had proposed to set forth the cartographical history of the New World, doubtless the loan of it would have been requested, along with other pieces, among which may be cited the two Desceliers planispheres, known as the *Harleian* and the *Bubics*.

M Marcel will shortly publish a series of facsimiles of documents which figured at the Paris Exhibition of Early American Maps.

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Among these, not less than forty in number, will be facsimiles of the "green globe," of the "globe doré," of the King Chart, of the Viegas portolano, etc., etc.

LE COCQ DE LAUTREPPE.

PARIS, November 10, 1892.

[We are glad to have an outline of M. Marcel's argument about the non-autographic character of the La Cosa map, and shall await with interest the result of his study from the new reproduction which has just been published at Madrid. A copy of this last has this moment reached us, and it does not impress us as having been made with anything like photographic accuracy, as is claimed. A cursory comparison which we have made of it with earlier reproductions indicates numerous variations. It is nearly forty years since the present writer saw the original ox-hide when it was exposed for sale in Paris, and his recollection may be at fault, but he finds in this professed facsimile much brighter colors than he has ever since associated with the map. He looks in vain for that dash of green paint which Henry Stevens assigns to the western end of Cuba, as indicating an uncertain extent to that island. He finds that the inscription about the English discoveries is shorn of an essential part. That the map has lost something since Humboldt and Jomard used it, may be true; but it is also certain that, if their eyes divined obscure lines aright, the modern photography and chromo-printing of Madrid are not up to the standard which will satisfy scholars.

Until we see the reproduction of the "green globe" which M. Marcel promises us, it is hardly possible to say whether the respective dates which Harrisse assigns to that and to the so-called Da Vinci map will stand in everybody's opinion. We are inclined sooner to agree with Major than with Harrisse on the date of the latter map, believing it earlier than 1519.

Harrisse's putting of the lost Schöner globe of 1523 earlier than the Franciscus Monachus hemispheres, showing North America and Asia as one, is an argument rather than a demonstration. At all events, the globe of Franciscus Monachus has come down to us, while the globe of 1523 has not.

We had confounded dates in what we said of the Gutierrez and Le Testu charts, and trust M. Marcel will include them in his promised atlas.

We had thought there was a peculiar appropriateness in what we said of the Franquelin Map of 1684, inasmuch as Paris would then have regained in a copy what it some years ago lost in an original. We understood that the Exhibition did not attempt a complete collection of early maps, but the catalogue—which we have received since our previous notes were written—shows that some facsimiles of maps not preserved in Paris were admitted.—ED. NATION.]

## FRAUDULENCE AND FALSE PROFESSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The circulation of the *Academy* not being so wide in the United States as in England, I solicit a little space for the purpose of repeating, in part, the substance of a noteworthy letter by the Rev. Anthony L. Mayhew, a philologist of high and deserved repute, which recently appeared in its columns.

Palmed off as by Smollett, a translation, or rather a "traduction," of Le Sage's *Gil Blas*, executed sixty years after the date of his own translation, and wholly independent of it, has, within a short time, been put forth, under his name, by three firms of London publishers, Nimmo & Bain (1881), George Bell & Sons (1885), and George Routledge & Sons. Nimmo & Bain's publication has prefixed to it "a biographical and critical notice of Le Sage, by George Saintsbury." Whatever Mr. Saintsbury knew about Le Sage, it is a pity that he neglected to inquire about Smollett.

With the aid of one of the British Museum librarians, Mr. Mayhew has discovered that the translation which has been so often imputed to Smollett was the work of Benjamin Heath Malkin, first brought out in 1809. It was, I find, published by Longman and other booksellers, and its price was six guineas.

That work contains the following anonymous "Advertisement," the writer of which was, assuredly, a passed-master in mendacity and impudence:

"On occasion of producing a splendid English edition of *Gil Blas*, the publishers would gladly have adopted the translation published under the name of Smollett. The defects of that translation are acknowledged; and Le Sage is now understood to be indebted to this popular writer only for his name. Under these circumstances, it has been the aim of the present translator to produce a more easy and spirited transcript of the original; with what ability and success, must be left to the reader to determine."

It is the translation referred to, as reproduced by George Routledge & Sons, that Mr. T. L. Kington Oliphant, in his pretentious and costly book entitled *The New English* (1886), has accepted as Smollett's, the diction of which he explicitly professes to criticise. As the consequence of what he has done, alleges Mr. Mayhew, he "has dated hundreds of 1809 words sixty years too early." "Remarkable". Mr. Oliphant may well style "the number of new English phrases" which, with culpable heedlessness, he fathers, directly, or by implication, on an eminent author, and not seldom to the detriment of his fair fame.

Mr. Mayhew writes, concluding his letter:

"One question I should like to ask; and I hope I shall get an answer. Who was the first person who foisted the work of Malkin on a confiding public as the work of the popular author of *Roderick Random*?"

It seems that the question can be easily answered, and, in fact, has already been answered by the unscrupulous tradesman who perpetrated the swindle to which Mr. Mayhew has drawn attention. The English *Gil Blas* now published by George Bell & Sons is, with no change except in the title-page, that which was published by their predecessor, H. G. Bohn, in 1859. And Bohn, though in the wrong place, has confessed, in a way, what it is that he then published. In his edition of Lowndes's *Bibliographer's Manual*, p. 1343 (1860), under the heading of "Le Sage," he represents it as being "Smollett's translation revised" by Malkin. But why, if an honest man, did not he call it so, or something else than simply Smollett's, in his reprint? As plainly appears, he thus stands convicted, by his own acknowledgment, of a scandalous imposition on public credulity. For the rest, on comparing, almost anywhere, Smollett's translation with Malkin's, one will see that the two are about as dissimilar as possible. Their difference, and also their comparative faithfulness, may be fairly inferred from the startling parallel quotations, accompanied by the original French, given by Mr. Mayhew.

Intermediate to the first issue of the translation by Malkin, which bears his name, and Bohn's reissue of that translation, offered as by Smollett, there is an edition, now lying before me, dated 1822, of the same translation, bearing neither Smollett's name nor that of Malkin. This suppression of name is a circumstance nowhere noted by Bohn. Was he deceived by it? Be this as it may, alike whether he reprinted that edition in ignorance that he was giving the world another translation than Smollett's, or whether he reprinted the original edition of Malkin's translation, withholding its "Advertisement," can now be only conjectured. In 1859 he may have been misled; but not in 1860.

Bohn's fraud, undetected up to the time of Mr. Mayhew's letter, was successful, not only commercially, but otherwise. The version, at best a wretched travesty, which he put off as Smollett's, accepted as being really so, furnishes the text of an article in the *Saturday Review* of November 26, 1859, opening with these words:

"Smollett's translation of *Gil Blas* is certainly an exception to the common rule, that translations of all kinds, and especially translations of novels, are altogether unreadable. It is very far indeed from being equivalent to the original; but it is a vigorous, lively version of it. No two styles, indeed, can be more unlike than those of Lesage and Smollett; but, though the translation differs widely from the original, it has the great merit of having a character of its own, instead of being a mere imitation."

With reference to Mr. Oliphant, I now give some quotations, yet not a fourth part of kindred ones that might be given, from the Routledge edition of Malkin's burlesque translation, confining myself to the three first Books of the twelve:

"While I was dressing, Corcuelo *put in his appearance*." P. 6.

"I *joined issue with* [*i. e.*, joined] some desperate blades." P. 13.

"We were beginning to *wear our homeward way*." P. 17.

"*Presuming on the lady for* [*i. e.*, presuming that the lady might be] an accomplice." P. 25.

"From my first *outset* from Oviedo." P. 26.

"Her *finale* [*i. e.*, ultimate conduct] gave me a much higher opinion of her." P. 33.

"He . . . had been careful to fetch them *by* over-night." P. 36.

"I closed *in* with the doctor's proposal." P. 46.

"In vain did he crack *off* [*i. e.*, up] his water." P. 47.

"This was followed by an *adjournment* to a tavern." P. 49.

"There might we have *foddered* for an age." P. 55.

"*I gave her carte blanche of* all my private thoughts." P. 69.

"I used to *sol-fa* with a shepherd of Olmédo." P. 70.

"These very *hymeneals* . . . have we been celebrating." P. 74.

"These plays *to tear a cat in* are the only things for popularity." P. 74.

"You are a very great *bore*." P. 84.

"We may introduce a *buffo caricato* into our serious opera." P. 85.

"This bevy of *fashionables* set sail together for the tavern." P. 87.

"We *sat* before them a great choice of the best wines in Spain." P. 87.

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"We all of us bore *a bob* [*i. e.*, a part in conversation]." P. 94.

"I . . . began to *appreciate* [*i. e.*, appraise] their merit more truly than they had estimated that of the authors." P. 110.

Not at all after the manner of Smollett is the false or questionable English observable in these extracts; and no more so is the shred of phrase from Shakspere, or the ambitious *buffo caricato*.

But, more particularly, Smollett was quite the reverse of a linguistic innovator, or of a patron of neoterisms; and, almost to a certainty, even if it had been otherwise, he could have known nothing, in 1749, of the expression *put in his appearance*, or of any of the vocables *outset*, *finale*, *adjournment*, *sol-fa*, *hymeneals*, *bore*, *fashionables*, and *appreciate*, as we have seen them used in 1809.

To go on with these strictures through several columns would be perfectly easy; but I shall conclude them with a single additional item. In his remarks on the translation of *Gil Blas* whose authorship he mistakes, Mr. Oliphant says: "The word *lording* is revived, after a sleep of four hundred years." Apart from the insanely ludicrous claim to reach and closeness of research here implied, what are we to think of a person who makes such a statement in face of quotations for *lordling*, from Swift (1730) and Bp. Hall, in Johnson's *Dictionary* and in Richardson's respectively? And Edmund Gayton has *lordling* in his *Pleasant Notes upon Don Quixot* (1654), pp. 114, 171. With the multitude, the pretensions and the positiveness of Mr. Oliphant, exorbitant as they are, but at the same time, φωνᾶντα συνετοῖσι, would, as he shrewdly foresaw, insure the confidence in him to which, like every writer, he must have aspired. In the upshot, his salient features have earned him, besides the confidence of the uninquiring, a certain distinction. In one or two respects, he has achieved, among minutiose philologists, an eminence which, in spite of whatever competition, is likely to be recognized as all his own. For presumptuousness of profession and general untrustworthiness he may, without a tremor, challenge rivalry. F. H.

MARLESFORD, ENGLAND, October 10, 1892.

# Notes.

GINN & Co., Boston, have devised a "Department of Special Publication," for the getting into print of "valuable works of a special character and a high grade." In brief, they propose to manufacture and lend their imprint to any work of this description on the simple insurance not of profit but against loss. This insurance will be ascertained by sending out prospectuses to the class interested in the proposed publication, partly at the author's expense. Professors, it is intimated, may thus secure desirable text-books by a guarantee to use them for a certain number of years. Societies and colleges also may use this department for the publication of monographs.

The first book undertaken by the Authors' Club of this city is now in the press. It consists of contributions, presumably by members, in prose and in verse, each of which will be signed by its author with pen and ink. The decorative headbands and tailpieces will be specially designed for their places. Only 251 copies will be printed, and bound in a "style completely new and characteristically American." Subscriptions, at one hundred dollars per copy, will be received by the Secretary, Mr. Rossiter Johnson, No. 1 Bond Street.

The Boston "Club of Odd Volumes" has in press 'The Women of the Court of Louis XV.,' from the French of Imbert St.-Amand, a quarto volume, limited to 150 copies. Besides a portrait of the King, it will contain a photogravure in color of Mme. de Pompadour, from a pastel by Maurice Quentin de la Tour. She is represented in the garb of a shepherdess, much decorated with powder, ribbons, and wild flowers.

The rubricated new Standard Book of Common Prayer of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which will be known in ecclesiastical history as the "Standard of 1892," is nearing completion at the De Vinne Press. The edition consists of 1,162 copies. Of this number 650 copies are printed in royal octavo size on good book paper, and bound in cloth, with polished red edges; one of these is to be presented within a few days to each delegate to the General Convention which recently assembled at Baltimore. The type will then be reimposed to a leaf 10x14 inches, and 500 copies printed on hand-made paper and twelve copies on vellum. Those on hand-made paper are to be bound in parchment and offered for sale at $20 each. One of the vellum copies will receive unique treatment, both in printing and binding, as it will be the property of the General Convention; it is designated "The Standard Book," and all other copies must be certified as accurate transcripts of it. The eleven remaining copies on vellum will be printed and handsomely bound at the personal expense of Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, who will present them to those who have been most actively engaged in preparing this sumptuous edition.

'A Short History of the Prayer Book,' by the Rev. Dr. W. R. Huntington, rector of Grace Church, New York, is announced for publication by Thomas Whittaker. It will contain also an account of the rise, progress, and completion of liturgical revision.

Perhaps it is only the mania for collecting all sorts of things, perhaps it is the growing interest in all the arts of the book-lover, but there is no doubt that of late much more attention is being paid to those paper-labels which indicate the ownership of books, and which are called ex-libris in French and book-plates in English. In France, Poulet-Malassis's pioneer book on the subject has recently been followed by M. Henri Bouchot's little treatise. In England there is the portly volume by the Hon. Leicester Warren, and the Journal of the newly organized Ex-Libris Society. In America there was first a page or two in the "Home Library," then Mr. Laurence Hutton's articles (now included in his 'From the Books of'), and finally Mr. Lichtenstein's elaborate papers. Two volumes are now announced likely to interest all collectors. One, by Mr. Egerton Castle, is called 'English Book-Plates,' and is to contain some 120 illustrations; the other, 'French Book-Plates,' is by Mr. Walter Hamilton, and is to contain 100 illustrations. We could wish that Mr. Hutton or Mr. Lichtenstein had in preparation a third book, on 'American Book-Plates.'

Mr. Austin Dobson is engaged on an introduction to a reproduction of Holbein's 'Dance of Death,' printed from the facsimile woodcuts of Bonner and Byfield. It will be published in London by George Bell & Sons, and in New York by Macmillan & Co. The latter publishers have nearly ready 'A Review of the Systems of Ethics Founded on the Theories of Evolution,' by C. M. Williams; 'The Paintings of Florence,' a guide by Karl Károly (Frank T. Charles); and 'The Visible Universe,' by J. Ellard Gore.

The next volume in the Great Commander Series of the Messrs. Appleton will be a biography of Gen. Taylor, by Gen. O. O. Howard.

'First Days with the Contrabands,' by Elizabeth Hyde Botume, and 'The Life of Christian Daniel Rauch,' the Berlin sculptor, are in the press of Lee & Shepard, Boston.

Tait, Sons & Co., New York, have nearly ready 'The Diary of a Nobody,' by George Grossmith, with illustrations by Weedon Grossmith; 'A Battle and a Boy,' by Blanche Willis Howard; and 'The Secret of Narcisse,' by Edmund Gosse.

Brentano's announcements include 'Chicago,' thirty photogravures with descriptive text; 'The Buildings of the World's Columbian Exposition,' also in photogravure; 'The Great Composers,' 'The Great Singers,' 'The Great Virtuosi,' by the Comtesse de Brémont; and Motteux's translation of 'Don Quixote,' with Lalauze's etchings, limited to 300 copies.

David Douglas, Edinburgh, promises next spring the first of two volumes of Scott's 'Familiar Letters' (1797-1825), annotated by the literary hand of the publisher himself.

In the week's reprints, the two green-and-gold volumes, 'Persuasion' and 'Northanger Abbey,' in Mr. Brimley Johnson's edition of Jane Austen's novels (London: J. M. Dent & Co.; New York: Macmillan), fall behind none in intrinsic and extrinsic attractiveness. A. D. F. Randolph & Co. put forth, with their customary good taste, a second American edition of Dean Stanley's 'Historical Memorials of Canterbury.' It is bound in a white, vellum-like cloth with half-purple sides, and is freely supplied with illustrations both in and out of the letterpress. The latter set are all photographic, if we are not mistaken in supposing the etchings to be copies in this manner. Hence, and owing to the different tones of the photographs direct from the pile itself, there is a certain incongruity which we think might have been avoided by at least abandoning the etchings, seeing that they are but ordinary as art. Still, they add something to the graphic series, regarded as memoranda. The Messrs. Putnam continue their pocket series of "Literary Gems," bound in black leatherette, with half-a-dozen volumes from Milton ("L'Allegro," "Il Penseroso," and the sonnets and odes), Gray (the "Elegy"), Bryant ("Thanatopsis"), Irving ("Rip Van Winkle" and "Wolfert's Roost"), Sheridan ("The Rivals"), and Thackeray ("Charity and Humor" and "Nil Nisi Bonum"). There is a portrait frontispiece to the Thackeray; the rest have etched designs appropriate to the respective pieces, and of good quality. Estes & Lauriat make four little volumes of Thomson's 'Seasons,' with unpretentious and sometimes charming illustrations. The covers are not to our taste, and the binding is too inflexible. T. Y. Crowell & Co. reprint their edition of Tennyson's Poems of 1885, with additions and with some fresh illustrations, including a good portrait. The outside is too florid for the rather plain typography. The same publishers reissue Miss Bates's 'Cambridge Book of Poetry and Song,' which has been for ten years before the public and is a useful anthology if not critically among the best. The volume has been diminished in size to advantage, and has a better designed cover than formerly; but the exchange of Longfellow portraits has not been fortunate. On the whole, one may prefer this to its predecessor. We may notice here that a third edition of the Rev. Henry Van Dyke's 'The Poetry of Tennyson' has just been issued by the Scribners.

Eleanor Lewis's 'Famous Pets of Famous People' (D. Lothrop Co.) is a well-written, humorous narrative derived from a great va-

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riety of sources and exceptionally well illustrated. From the design on the cover one might think it a child's book, and it would in fact be a very proper gift for children, though there is no condescension to that age in the author's cultivated style. Adults will first enjoy and then retail these anecdotes to the little ones.

The title of Rose Porter's 'A Gift of Love and Loving Greetings for 365 Days' (Fleming H. Revell Co.) explains itself. This calendar for every year is prettily bound in white, and stamped with pansies, and adds to the daily text on love from the Scriptures harmonious extracts containing the same magic word from a large number of secular writers.

There is very little novelty in the second series of F. Anstey's dramatic social satires, 'Voces Populi' (Longmans), some of which can be read with entire soberness of face. The talk of the people in the galleries, in 'buses, at garden parties, at the theatre, at the horse show, the talk of street orators and Socialists, bears a strong family resemblance to that of the mirth-provoking first series. The vein would seem to be nearly worked out. "In a Fog" and "Bricks without Straw" are exceptionally ingenious and delightful. Mr. Partridge's illustrations maintain their high level of character drawing.

The current bound volume of the *Magazine of Art* (Cassell) wears its customary look, at once British and popular. Its modes of illustration vary from chromolithography to etching, wood-engraving, and process. Due notice is taken of native deceased artists, exhibitions, private collections, with glances at art abroad. The department known as "Our Illustrated Note-book" is always interesting for its pictorial memoranda of passing men or events, new monuments, new acquisitions of the art galleries, etc. The chronicles of art have a liberal American section. The articles are kept very short, in the endeavor to please many tastes. The late Theodore Child has a brief paper on the Comédie-Française. Mr. Linley Sambourne writes two on Political Cartoons, speaking of himself and his own work with great modesty. He confesses to have formed his style as much upon the study of Albert Dürer as of any master.

Another volume, the fifth, of the *Bookworm* is before us (London: Elliot Stock; New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son). Its scrappy character is quite unchanged, and it appeals mostly to the desultory reader. Its special articles are, however, frequently meritorious, and sometimes authoritative, whereas much of the miscellaneous information is at second-hand. American topics are fairly abundant, and there is the usual supply of quaint reproductions of old prints, book-plates, etc.

The *Mother's Nursery Guide* (*Babyhood*) reaches its eighth volume without having exhausted its topics or its usefulness. The tenth volume will warrant a consolidated index for the series, from which alone can appear how much of scientific counsel and exchange of domestic experience is garnered by this magazine for the needs of the nursery and the family. It is issued by the Babyhood Publishing Co., in this city.

The Transactions of the Royal Historical Society of London for 1892 contain a long Introduction by Mr. I. S. Leadam to his forthcoming edition of the 'Returns to the Inquisition of 1517,' concerning Inclosures. Mr. Leadam maintains that the Inclosures of the Tudor period scarcely affected the copyholders, and, indeed, that copyholders were themselves among the inclosers. He allows, however, that some copyholders were evicted; and his own statistical synopsis shows that the inclosers of considerable areas were almost invariably manorial lords. Mr. Leadam argues further that not only the "copyholders" in the technical sense, but also all the villein tenants, enjoyed legal security of tenure. To support this position he draws a distinction between *villanus* and *nativus* which certainly does not appear on the face of the evidence and is opposed to the best authorities. The treatise is full of information, but is somewhat marred by its polemical form. It was hardly necessary to treat Prof. Ashley's tentative suggestions, contained in a brief paper on "Villein Tenure" a couple of years ago, with the rather ponderous vehemence which marks the present production.

The November Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society opens with an account of the central province of Madagascar by the Rev. James Sibree. In describing the journey from the coast, he referred to the fact that there are still *no roads practicable for wheeled vehicles*, stating afterwards that this was not due to the conservatism of the natives, but had a political cause, the difficulty of the road making an invasion almost impossible. The Prime Minister is quoted as saying that "he had two generals in his army, Gen. Forest and Gen. Fever, and these he pitted against any foreign forces coming up to take his town." During the past thirty years the progress of the capital, Antananarivo, has been striking. In 1863 it was a town built entirely of wood or rush and bamboo. Now it has become a city containing hundreds of good two and three-storied brick houses, with many public buildings of stone. This is mainly owing to the influence of the English missionaries and especially to the erection of the stone Martyr Memorial Churches. Mr. W. M. Conway contributes a graphic account of some of his last summer's exploits among the Himalayas. One of his camps, in which with two European companions he spent two nights, was about 20,000 feet in height. There is also an interesting description of recent explorations in British New Guinea and the progress made in civilizing the country. In some places "villages formerly built for safety upon piles over the water, are now being rebuilt on dry land, and the new houses are far more substantial." More land is being cultivated. Warlike habits are being given up, the people who formerly invariably carried arms now appearing without them; and a commercial spirit is fast developing.

In the *Scottish Geographical Magazine* for November is an encouraging account, by Mr. D. J. Rankin, of his recent explorations in the Zambesi basin. He found the country lying between this river and the Shiré rich in mineral and agricultural resources. Traces of gold were observed in numerous places, and one large stream drains an "extremely rich auriferous region, while coal, iron, and copper are found from its source to its confluence." Another section "offers valuable sites for extensive coffee plantations, besides which it is prolific in most tropical products, of which cotton, indigo, cocoa, rubber, rice, and sugar may be mentioned as the most important." In addition, this whole region possesses the great advantage of having an abundant water-supply and navigable communication with the seaboard from almost every part. Inhabitants are very scarce and large game very numerous.

A correspondent writes, apropos of Mr. W. C. Ford's recent letter on the Washington genealogy: "That Mr. Ford's supposition as to the relation of the names Howard and Hayward is correct—to wit, that they are 'aliases'—is apparent from the pedigree of Howard (Dukes of Norfolk) given on page 286 Burke's 'Dormant and Extinct Peerages,' ed. 1883."

—We have received from Mr. Victor Bernstrom, member of the Society of American Wood-Engravers, a proof print of a large and notable engraving on wood from his own design. The picture represents a scene, "Pirates' Haven," on Shark River, along the New Jersey coast. It is a really charming landscape, vigorous in composition as well as in the management of light and shade. It is carefully executed, and gives promise of further development on the part of the artist. There is a certain dryness in the handling of the tints, as well as in the light of the sky, but, taken as a whole, this print is fresh evidence that wood-engraving has not witnessed its culmination in the pages of the magazines, but has merely been encouraged in its onward march as an art by itself. Mr. Bernstrom's print is to be had of our leading dealers—Keppel, Knoedler, Reichard, Klackner, and Wunderlich.

—The publishers of the entertaining illustrated fortnightly magazine *Natura ed Arte* (Milan: Francesco Villardi) have issued as a supplement a thick Album, in honor of the current Columbus anniversary. Cecilio Villardi and Prof. Angelo De Gubernatis together procured a vast number of autographs from the leading men of letters the world over, and these, photolithographed and arranged in due order, make the 'Albo di Onoranze Internazionali a Cristoforo Colombo.' It is a very curious and entertaining collection, in which, amid the sentiments and mottoes, one comes upon architectural or landscape drawings, portraits, music, as by Verdi, Gounod, and the Brazilian Gomes, and even upon ancient Vedic music—a fruitful field of exploration for western musical Columbuses, we are assured. The more difficult tongues are provided with translations. Of common occurrence are the inscription, "A Castilla y á León," and Seneca's prophecy, "Venient annis Sæcula seris." In one case at least (p. 72) notice is taken of Columbus's recent detractors, moved by an "antipelasgic spirit." Prof. Gustav Storm of Christiania will not let Leif Eriksson be forgotten. The Bopp-Stiftung holds up its founder as the Columbus of Indo-Germanic learning; Poland sees in Copernicus the Columbus of the firmament; a Hungarian professor ascribes to Columbus, Galileo, and Newton our new view of heaven and earth (*die Erneuerung unserer Weltanschauung*); a Hungarian Deputy holds that, next after Christ, Columbus has been the most useful to mankind. In this linguistic Babel a noticeable number of foreigners choose English mottoes—from Shakspere, Berkeley, Byron—or use English as their vehicle, whereas Huxley, on the other hand, copies an Italian passage from the Life of the navigator.

—The reaction of the New World upon the Old is remembered in many ways. Dr. F. Markovitch, of the Agram Academy, prettily recalls Columbus's having been taken back in chains from the theatre of his discovery, to which millions of his fellow-beings would one day flock, leaving their Old World chains behind them. So Vámbéry, writing in English, says: "Through the strides of the Great Republic, on the field of political and social sciences, the old saying, 'Ex oriente lux,' will soon be reversed in the sentence, 'Ex occidente lux.'" On the other hand, Julius Schwarz of Budapest says that Columbus was a "most successful pioneer of the political evolution of

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modern political societies," because he opened to feudal Europe America, which produced Franklin, who crystallized on a great scale the principles of 1789; but then, "the brutal mercantilism in science and literature that we are accustomed to ascribe to American genius is deeply rooting in our own social habits as a fruit of the reaction of half-breed spirits gainst the remnants of mediæval prerogative." Prof. Barzelotti of Naples admonishes American protectionists who still flatter their countrymen with the musty theory of "America all by itself and for itself, divorced from the Old World," that they cannot suppress the spiritual affinity of American for Old World culture. Altogether delicate and fitting is Prof. D. Korsakoff's remarking upon the coincidence that in 1492, through Columbus, Italy revealed to Europe the New World of the West, and in 1493, through the Venetian Senator and traveller Ambrogio Contarini, the New World of Muscovy—the two giant empires of to-day. "The mutual sympathy of these two great States is evident, and has shown itself in a signal manner by the fraternal succor of the former to the starving population of the latter in 1892." Franklin, we will close by observing, is the notorious favorite among Americans in foreign eyes. On p. 48 we have a new version of "Eripuit cœlo fulmen"—

"Che al ciel rapita ha i fulmini
E un ferreo scettro infranto."

On p. 86 Franklin is linked with Washington in the lines (to Liberty)—

"Te di Boston il saggio e te l'eroe
Di Virginia comprese;"

On p. 80 the conjunction is of Lincoln and Washington—

"Da te solenni di virtute esempi,
Lincoln ereditammo e Vascintono";

while our translator of the 'Divine Comedy' is remembered thus:

"Del sommo
Fiorentino schiudea gli inferi regni
Longfellow a' suoi concittadini."

—The latest publication of the American Statistical Association contains some extracts from a paper by Mr. Giffen which recall the old jest that the only good book of the Spaniards is the one which exposes the folly of all the others. Mr. Giffen's remarks are a most impressive warning against the work of amateur statisticians, especially when they attempt international comparisons. He points out that it is very difficult to compare countries according to the degree of education prevailing among their inhabitants; that equal difficulties affect every comparison of the extent of crime; that the same is true of sexual morality, of insolvency, of the diffusion of property, of production, industry, trade, and wages. As to drunkenness Mr. Giffen declares: "I see no way myself of establishing statistically that one population is more or less drunken than another." In all these matters he asserts that the results of the comparisons ordinarily furnished to the public are "the merest chance"—an assertion which it is of great value to have made by the highest authority upon statistics.

—The same publication contains a statistical investigation of the net profits of certain manufacturing industries in the State of Massachusetts by Mr. W. F. Draper, which incidentally discredits the results attained by the Bureau of Statistics of Labor in that State. Mr. Draper takes from Martin's annual statements of the prices of stocks and dividends of corporations known to the Boston market a list of all Massachusetts corporations for which figures are given for ten years from 1882. The list contains 65 names, and of these 41 have maintained the same capital during the period covered. These have paid dividends averaging 6.58 per cent. per annum on the par value of their stock, but averaging only 4.88 per cent. on the average market value. Moreover, during these ten years, that market value has declined from $55,000,000 to $44,000,000, so that if the amount of this decline is taken from the dividends, the stockholders have really received but 2.68 per cent. per year as net income. Taking the other twenty-four companies whose capital was changed, or which suspended operations during the period, Mr. Draper finds that, after deducting capital paid in from dividends paid out, there remains an average annual dividend of less than one-half of one per cent.; while if market values are compared, it appears that these companies have lost not only the interest on their capital for ten years, but also quite a sum of money besides. Taking all the companies together, they have made an average net dividend of 4.86 per cent.; their dividend upon the average selling price would be 3.87 per cent., while their dividend upon the average value of the capital invested falls to 2.06 per cent. These figures are extremely startling, and should receive the most careful consideration from those interested in Massachusetts manufactures. They are indeed of interest to the whole country, as suggesting that a high tariff has failed to increase the prosperity of manufacturers, and that they could not be worse off with lower duties.

## COTTON MATHER.

*Cotton Mather*, the Puritan Priest. By Barrett Wendell. [Makers of America.] Dodd, Mead & Co.

*The Life and Times of Cotton Mather, D.D., F.R.S.*; or, A Boston Minister of Two Centuries Ago. By Rev. Abijah P. Marvin. Boston: Congregational Sunday-School and Publishing Society.

THE recent appearance of two biographical studies of Cotton Mather is incidental to the two hundredth anniversary of the Salem witchcraft episode, with which delusion the name of Mather is yet, and seems doomed to remain, fast associated. Approaching their subject in a wholly dissimilar spirit, both Mr. Wendell, whose book was issued some months ago, and the Rev. Mr. Marvin, whose work is posthumous, have shown no small zeal in clearing away many of the aspersions which have gathered since the beginning of the present century about the reputation of the younger of the two great New England preachers. To the later biographer Cotton Mather stands at last disclosed as a faithful, patient, God-serving pastor, erring only in over-devotion to the cause of religion and of doing good, and by no means a self-seeking winner of personal glory. It is the tribute of a member of the sect still intellectually dominant in New England to one of its greatest memories. On the other hand, Prof. Wendell, with a somewhat lavish gesture, has thrown the mantle of charity over Mather, and yet has so disposed it as to reveal his nakedness and weakness. It is plain to see, throughout a highly ingenious and carefully elaborated method, a courteously conveyed but not expressed conviction that Mather was so far the victim of his hallucinations and personal vanities as to have passed the limit of mental responsibility. Much stress is laid in a novel manner on his relations to "occultism," as may be seen by reference to that word in the author's admirable index.

Whoever thinks there is no new thing under the sun, will do well to examine for himself what Prof. Wendell has to say on the supernatural as it was manifested in Salem in 1692. This author has, in a former book, given hint of a theory, wholly his own, which he now expands in a manner worthy of attention, though perhaps not of belief. The introduction of private conclusions on matters in general may or may not be acceptable in a book with so definite an object; at all events, it is safe to say that some readers will by no means relish Mr. Wendell's opinions on the "histrionic insincerity" of the pulpit, the theatrical accessories of which, it may be fairly submitted, are not necessarily more insincere than the judicial wig, the academic gown, or the "bedside manner" of the physician.

To valuable sources, many of them private and difficult of access, it is evident that Mr. Wendell has gone in a thorough and painstaking spirit. Like Mr. Marvin, he has chosen to make diaries and journals tell the story of Mather's life. The best evidence that their subject was a genuine and not an untrue man is found in the substantial sameness of the issue of their labors. These pieced-together autobiographical records, chosen by one editor as a confessed apologist, and by the other in a way to uncover, on the whole, faults even more than excellences, reveal the essential unity of Mather's strangely composite character: two Cotton Mathers, and not one, would otherwise have been the resultant of such diversely motived attempts.

It is pertinent to express surprise that the editors of the series to which Mr. Wendell's work is a contribution should not have chosen Increase Mather, rather than his eminent son, as a representative "Maker of America." The elder Mather's work for the new Charter, his presidency of Harvard College, and his wide concern in the affairs of his day, while happily remote for the most part from personal contentions, would seem to qualify him for consideration as one of those characters who mould and inform a coming civilization. Aside from the fact that Cotton Mather was a busy and faithful pastor, an active citizen of the town of Boston, and an unceasing toiler for the good of his race in practical as well as in spiritual matters, his fame commonly rests on his prodigious erudition and its prolific fruitage. Of the hundreds of printed volumes of the two Mathers, the man of letters of to-day finds nothing more significant to say, when he has excepted the 'Magnalia' and several contributions to witchcraft literature, than that they are the curious objects of search for the harmless book-collector. Prof. Wendell lost an admirable opportunity to speak of the place to which Cotton Mather is entitled in American literature, for it is as a writer of many books of many sorts that he stands in memory as one of the "makers" of this country. As it is, the author's statement that he found in the 'Magnalia' not a line that is not perfectly lucid nor a paragraph that he could honestly call tiresome, bears weight nd is of interest. A further critical estimate would have been most welcome.

Prof. Wendell candidly admits that he was not so fortunate as to examine the manuscript of the now published book by the late Mr. Marvin, in which, however, there seems to be nothing which would have changed materially his conclusions. To essay a man's Life in his own words, written in solitude or for no eye but his own, has its dangers, and in the case of Cotton Mather this is especially true, for his diaries were so often the effusive and un-

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healthy outpourings of one who thought much about his "condition," though he certainly never wilfully neglected the spiritual concerns of others, that an uncomfortable conviction grows that his story as it has been told thus far is frequently not worth the telling. Mr. Marvin's excerpts, upon which he comments in a style better suited to the larger opportunities of the pulpit than to the closer exactions of biography, exhibit in a generous way the best qualities of Cotton Mather, and do not disclose more than is necessary of mere eccentricities or failures. His earnestness so far outweighs his sense of humor that he seldom has availed himself, with Mr. Wendell, of the melancholy pleasure of exposing his subject's weaknesses in order to extenuate them. With some skill in selection, aided by an honest desire to promote the cause of the religion of his fathers, Mr. Marvin gives passages which for the most part show Mather as a man of noble moods. Both editors properly quote the beautiful words of Mather on the death of his first wife, and both are alike generous in their estimate of the manhood and patience shown during his trials with the mental alienation of the third wife.

Brief observations upon most of the publications of Mather have been introduced by Mr. Marvin, and the depositories of many of the rarer imprints are frequently mentioned. Some important corrections are given of earlier bibliographical assertions in the curious tangle of the Mather literature. Mr. Marvin touches with precision on the Brattle Street Church affair, and would, we think, have avoided stating, with Mr. Wendell's certainty, that Benjamin Colman was responsible for the famous 'Gospel Order Revived,' a work which Mr. Hildeburn, usually good authority in these matters, now ascribes with a query to Solomon Southwick; though why not rather to Stoddard of Northampton, it is not easy to see. Mather's memorably progressive part in the early medical history of New England wins from Mr. Marvin something like adequate treatment. Far more edifying than his numerous fastings and strivings, his piqued disappointments at the lack of recognition from Harvard College, or the fateful honesty of his zeal against the possessed of Salem town, are the memories of Cotton Mather's unquenchable wish to do good to mankind, his bustling activity as pastor, preacher, and student, and his zeal in pushing the claims of inoculation. Both Prof. Wendell and Mr. Marvin have been too fearful of widening the scope of their efforts, faithful as each is in his own way, and have limited themselves too closely to the interior view of Mather's two-sided though by no means double character.

## CHILDREN'S BOOKS—II.

WHAT dimmest glimpses of the possible joys of reading, any more than of the beauties of language, can visit the mind of a child doomed to get its first and perhaps, alas! its last, ideas of books from the drowsy preachment of a volume of 'Stories for Children: A Supplementary Reader for Schools or for Use at Home,' by Lucretia P. Hale (Leach, Shewell & Sanborn), it is hard to see. It was to brighten life by some such youthful glimpses and to offer some such joys that Matthew Arnold adapted the noblest of the Hebrew prophecies to the use of young learners, and that Lewis Carroll conceived an 'Alice in Wonderland' and irresistible nonsense in verse beside. But let what they and Hawthorne and Kingsley and others like them have contributed to childhood's proper world of letters be ever so studiously neglected, it is safe to say that no child, unless it be a hopeless prig, will ever of its own accord pore over sing-song moralities, however well meant, and that the teacher who attempts to use them in a class will find a speedy retribution in the shape of the wandering eyes and fidgeting limbs on the benches before him.

It is doubtful, too, if instruction, edification, or pure delight will ensue from an acquaintance with 'The Little Doctor,' by Darley Dale (E. & J. B. Young & Co.). The juvenile mind will be quick to spy the cloven foot of pedagogy under the disguise of the gypsy Zingar. In the make-up of the little doctor himself, with his unhealthily premature medical information and his equally unhealthy longing to dabble in magic—which supplies the moral and the second title of the book, "The Magic of Nature"—there is nothing that ought to rouse the juvenile admiration, while there is quite as little that should appeal to the juvenile taste in the sort of talk that is bandied between the disreputable gypsy mother and her still more disreputable son. The "angel-child" Stella is composed after the fashion of Christmas-tree decorations, in cardboard and tinsel-paper, with an indigestible sweetening of sentimentality. Altogether, in spite of some ingenuity in the conception and in the weaving in of Swedish scenery and habits, the recurring problem which this book, too, suggests to the adult mind is, whether, after all, anything save the "best that has been thought and said in the world" is good enough to put into childish hands.

Mrs. Molesworth's English story of 'The Girls and I' (Macmillan & Co.), even though it is told from the standpoint of a premature snob of eleven, who hates to drive on the back seat of a victoria because "it gives such a messy look to the turn-out," who has opinions upon first and second-class travelling, and who speculates whether the landlady has charged for the cake and jam, is not such bad reading in itself. The chief objection to it is that it leaves such a small residuum in the mind after it has been read. There have been children who have thumbed their 'Pilgrim's Progress' in pinafores, and devoured Shakspere or Sir Walter while still in the nursery; and such children, we believe, have generally in after life escaped the most dreary of all curses—that of having nothing to think about. But a boy or a girl might go through a whole library of stories such as this one, about the loss of the diamond ornament, and the family attack of whooping-cough, and their consequences, and still have a mind as unfurnished with lasting conceptions as that of a child altogether bookless, and an imagination not comparable in development with that of the child of one book, provided, only, the one has been drawn from a supreme few.

To unfold the whole network of improbabilities which makes up the plot of 'Kent Hampden,' by Rebecca Harding Davis (Scribners), would take too long, but one or two points may be shown. If it ever happened that an "impulsive Virginian" ran away from home and concealed himself for many years under a changed name, all for the sake of leaving the fortune really his own in the undisputed possession of a crippled cousin, the fact should be frankly admitted to be too strange for fiction. Unlikely, too, is the successful detective work of a boy of fifteen by which he clears his father's name from grave suspicion. The author makes the most of time and place by references to "hot-blooded Southerners" and "that early time," but seventy years ago is too recent, and Wheeling, West Virginia, is too near home, to yield the necessary glamour. Still, as young readers stick at no unlikelihood, and are ready to enjoy the final triumph of virtue, however brought about, this book may suit them well enough, being full of incident and written in a lively style.

Improbability is not to be charged as a defect against 'Elfie's Visit to Cloudland and the Moon,' by Frances Vescelius Austen (Estes & Lauriat). We do not exact reality for a scene in Cloudland, whither a child is transported on a wreath of smoke under the guidance of E-ma-ji-na-shun, who, by the way, turns out to be an uncommonly dull little elf. Dulness, indeed, is to the adult taste the distinguishing characteristic of the whole story, in which Santa Claus, Mother Goose, The Man in the Moon, etc., are treated as real people, perhaps to the delectation of youngsters.

Four very thin books of the "Christmas in Many Lands Series" (Estes & Lauriat) are 'Dulce's Promise,' 'Jean Noël,' 'Lischen and the Fairy,' and 'The Little Musician,' by Florence and Edith Scannell. The scenes are in England in the last century, in France, Germany, and Italy. Monochrome illustrations are freely scattered through the text, and the stories themselves, though slender enough, are quite as substantial as any one would expect after a glance at the millinery covers, one of which actually simulates white lace laid over purple watered silk.

The stories which make up Nora Perry's 'A Rosebud Garden of Girls' (Little, Brown & Co.) are rather moral than useful. Few children would need to be specially taught that every virtue is not confined to the rich, or even that some belong peculiarly to the poor, yet this is the only moral pointed with convincing clearness. The idea of character as the basis of a new and truer class distinction was, no doubt, in the author's mind, but there is often confusion between character as a whole and single traits; rudeness is overlooked on account of independence or generosity until there is some risk that a child would not feel the bad traits to be condemned. The confusion is increased, too, by indications that some of those very refinements which the author is trying to show to be unessential, hold an unduly important place in her own esteem. A plain Western girl is relieved from the unpopularity which continues in spite of her irreproachable behavior, by the discovery that her father is a man of wealth and consequence, and that her dresses came from Paris; and this case does not stand alone, though it probably marks the extreme. In at least one of the stories, "The Cottage Neighbors," the moral is plainly drawn, though the artistic effect is somewhat marred by an occasional grammatical slip (not to say tumble) on the part of a lady supposed to be the very pattern of elegance.

Young and old should be glad to get in one volume the late Mrs. Ewing's 'Jackanapes,' 'Daddy Darwin's Dovecot,' and 'Lob-Lie by the Fire' (E. & J. B. Young & Co.). Caldecott's illustrations bind these classic stories together.

'More Good Times at Hackmatack,' by Mary P. W. Smith (Boston: Roberts Bros.), is rather a series of sketches than a continued story of life in an inland Massachusetts village sixty years ago. The principal characters are the children of the minister, and their occupations and amusements are the theme of the book. They make sugar, go on a picnic, help raise the frame of the church, see a circus, enter heartily into the Tippecanoe political cam-

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paign—idolizing Webster, of course, whom they hear speak, as well as Everett—attend the academy, and finally one goes to Harvard. There are few adventures, and those not of the thrilling kind, though the children are constantly falling into scrapes; but the interest of the book is wholly in its faithful pictures of a past generation. In these the author has shown much skill and no little humor, especially in the description of the summer Sunday and of some of the more peculiar village characters.

'Monica,' by Mrs. Evelyn Raymond (T. Y. Crowell & Co.), tells of an attractive Spanish girl, whose adventures while searching for a runaway brother furnish the main incidents of a very interesting story. Her unselfish devotion to those belonging to her is not without its influence upon others, especially upon young Christine, the adopted daughter of rich Americans, and only less charming than the heroine herself. Of the other characters, Benito, the little hunchback, is the most taking. The scene of the story is laid in Southern California, and there is a sufficient number of exciting incidents—as, for instance, a cyclone and a mortal combat with a grizzly—to commend it to its chosen audience.

Prof. H. H. Boyesen's 'Boyhood in Norway' (Scribners) is a collection of short stories illustrative of Norwegian sports and customs. Some are tales of adventure, as of hunting the elk and the bear, and rafting and logging in times of flood. Others are founded upon certain superstitions of the peasantry, chiefly in connection with children; but in one, "The Nixy's Strain," a belief in fairies is made in a charming way to call forth and develop all that is best in a boy's nature. Nearly all, in fact, teach lessons of manliness, self-control, and unselfishness, while one gives a noble example of self-sacrifice. Six of the nine stories, it should be said, as the title-page does not indicate the fact, have already been published in the *Youth's Companion* and in *Harper's Young People*.

The title of 'Zigzag Journeys on the Mississippi,' by H. Butterworth (Estes & Lauriat), naturally implies an account of the river, its scenery, the cities on its banks, its commerce, agriculture, and history. There is nothing of the kind. Of 319 pages, a little less than two are devoted to a general description of the river, seven are given to St. Louis, eight to New Orleans, while six lines each suffice for Memphis and Vicksburg. The Chicago Exposition has a few pages, and brief mention is made of the "islands of the Discovery." The rest of the volume consists of miscellaneous essays, poems, and stories, some of which relate to the early history of the river and America. There are in the text which strings them together passages like the following: "The legend of Ponce de Leon [the date of his birth is given a century too late] represents the struggle of the soul for larger knowledge and higher attainments, of the dreams of the *ideal* finding the *real*. *That* is America. It is the most beautiful allegory of America's life and mission. Already the legend is beginning to take form. It has been put into solid art in the palace hotel at St. Augustine." "America has only one city that is a poem." "At the entrance of the park is the grand bronze statue of Lincoln which stands in a serious but hospitable attitude on a semicircular platform of state."

Mr. Warren Lee Goss, whose 'Recollections of a Private' has a recognized place in the literature of the civil war, offers to boys an attractive book in his 'Tom Clifton' (T. Y. Crowell & Co.). His hero migrates in youth from New England to Minnesota, and goes through the adventures, perennially fascinating to the young, of establishing a new home, hunting, fishing, farming, and exposure to "blizzards." The civil war breaks out, and the youth, with a group of companions, enlists. Mr. Goss did not serve in the West, but his experiences in the ranks need but little change to insure verisimilitude when his boys fight at Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg, and Missionary Ridge. The horrors of capture follow, and thrilling efforts at escape, with final release in time to share the hurrahs at the return of peace. There is, perhaps, too much history for successful fiction; but boys are good at skipping, and for the more faithful readers the history is fairly close to the accepted version of the campaigns the author describes.

'The Story of John G. Paton' (A. C. Armstrong & Son) is the record of a well-spent life. It tells in a simple way of the struggles of a poor Scotch lad to get an education, of his self-denying work among the poor of Glasgow, and of nearly thirty years' toil among the cannibals of the New Hebrides. Few books of adventure have such thrilling incidents as are narrated by this missionary, whose perils from storm, sickness, and the hostility of the natives were equalled only by the courage and patience with which he endured them. Nor are there any more attractive pictures of savage life than those which Mr. Paton draws of these poor islanders after they had become Christians. The "story" should find a place, at least, in every Sunday-school library.

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*A Hanoverian-English Officer a Hundred Years Ago:* Memoirs of Baron Ompteda, Colonel in the King's German Legion, etc. Translated by John Hill, M.A., with portrait. London: Grevel & Co.; New York: B. Westermann & Co. 8vo, pp. 320.

INTERESTING side-lights are thrown by these memoirs upon the great conflict between England and the first Napoleon, from unexpected sources. As George the Third was King of Hanover as well as of Great Britain, the little Continental kingdom, though independent by its Constitution, was not allowed to be neutral in the wars following the French Revolution. It was a convenient point of attack where England could be reached without crossing the Channel. It was therefore occupied by French troops when war was waged between the principal countries. From 1803 to Napoleon's downfall it was continuously held by England's great enemy, and many of its most patriotic citizens were in exile. It was never the field of decisive battles, but it was harried and stripped by marching columns and remorseless garrisons, hopelessly enduring the most galling burdens and insults, without any of the glory of real war.

Christian Ompteda was a young lieutenant in the Hanoverian army when Louis XVI. was guillotined and war broke out. He served in the Netherlands campaigns of 1793-5, being severely wounded at Mont Cassel, and in his slow recovery suffered such mental depression as for a time unbalanced his mind. His sympathy with his countrymen in their misfortunes gave a sombre tone to his life and a tendency to melancholia which once more in his career caused a temporary insanity. These periods of alienation were brief, but they add a curious interest to his story by the resemblance, on a smaller scale, to the mental disorder of King George his sovereign, which so gravely affected the Government of Great Britain.

When in 1803 Hanover was forced to disband its army, Capt. Ompteda, with many more of the Hanoverian officers, made their way to England by devious routes and through many adventures and hardships. The German Legion was organized as part of the British Army, several thousand Hanoverian recruits, largely from the disbanded army, finding their way to the standards which their officers set up at Portsmouth. Ompteda was made major in one of the battalions, and he was thenceforward an exile, but a devoted soldier of his Hanoverian king. He served in English camps, was for a year in the garrison of Gibraltar, took part in the expedition against Copenhagen in 1807, was wrecked on the coast of Holland and made a prisoner of war. After his exchange he served under Wellington in the latter part of the Peninsular campaign, and, upon Napoleon's return from Elba, was transferred with the English Army to Belgium, and took active part in the campaign of Waterloo. He was now colonel of his regiment and commandant of a brigade. At Waterloo his troops defended the famous farm of La Haye Sainte, and he was killed in one of the last charges of the French cuirassiers. The monument on the field, opposite the place of the old farm-gate, bears his name with that of his comrades who fell with him.

Though his military career was an honorable and an instructive one, the chief interest in his story, compiled as it mainly is from his letters, is found in the mental and social history, which may be taken as a type of that of his oppressed and patriotic countrymen. We are made to learn what life was in Hanover in the doleful era of the subjugation. From this point of view we have a new and valuable chapter in the inner history of the time. Christian's brother, Louis, was in the diplomatic service, being ambassador of Hanover at the Court of Berlin, and an unofficial representative also of the English Government. Scharnhorst and Gneisenau were their intimate friends, and all were heart and soul in the reaction of 1813, when Germans were proud to "give gold for iron," and to have a hand in the downfall of the Napoleonic despotism.

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*The Bible and English Prose Style.* Selections and Comments. Edited, with an Introduction, by Albert S. Cook, Professor of the English Language and Literature in Yale University. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.

THIS little book of Prof. Cook's, in essence a plea for the study of the Bible for literary ends, will be a melancholy confirmation, to some, of the recent saying of an English writer: "Now that the Bible has ceased to be a fetish, it has ceased to be read." What possible need could there be of an exhortation to acquire familiarity with the Bible for the sake of understanding the allusions to it with which all English literature is filled, and for the sake of benefiting by its diction and style, if it were still the practice of mothers, as it was Ruskin's, to "force" their children, "by steady daily toil, to learn long chapters of the Bible by heart"?

At best Prof. Cook's volume must appeal to a narrow circle; it will have no chance of being used as a text-book in Sunday-schools, where he would be thought to be laying stress upon the beggarly elements; as little will it commend itself in those pietistic families where talismanic ideas of the Bible still linger; the most it can do is, perhaps, to remind a

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student here and there of those resources of literary gratification and moral uplifting which are to be found in the nobler portions of the Scriptures, and which can be enjoyed, as George Eliot and Matthew Arnold proved, even after the old glamour of theological interpretation has been dissipated.

Prof. Cook's introduction is in the main excellently conceived. A lack of discrimination might be charged against it, in its failure to distinguish the unequal values of the many different styles comprised under the name "the Bible." "Noble naturalness" may be safely claimed for the racy narratives of the Jehovist, but would it be just to assert it of the Elohist, with his schoolmaster's stiffness and jealous reiteration? So of some of Prof. Cook's other distinctions. It would be difficult to make good his sweeping assertion that there is no "artificiality" in the Bible; one remembers the acrostic Psalms, Ezekiel's unrealities, and the elaborate machinery of the Song of Songs. We think, too, that in commending the style of the Bible so unreservedly as Prof. Cook does, he should have been at more pains to point out the special vice, for us moderns, of one of its qualities—its prevailing oversight of the reasoning faculties. He states, it is true, that "there is no attempt to convert men from their errors by ratiocinative or philosophical processes"; but this scarcely marks, it seems to us, the whole world of difference between the style of St. John and that of Plato, for example. The Greek made all his appeal to the reason of men; did it as a cover for arbitrary dogmatizing, often; did it with surprising use of merely verbal arguments many times; but still did it, and so followed a method which is valid and indispensable today. The Hebrew spoke throughout in the name of Divine Infallibility, and thus made the tremendous impression he did as long as his dicta had to undergo no scrutiny. But one proved error was enough to throw doubt on his whole method, whereas, in Plato's give-and-take of argument, a mistake discovered serves but to confirm his method. Which of the two is best adapted to the needs of the modern world and the uses of modern writers, it is not necessary to say.

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*Goethe's Faust.* Edited by Calvin Thomas, Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures in the University of Michigan. Vol. I.: The First Part. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 1892.

It is not too much to say that of all "Faust" editions which thus far have appeared in this country or in England, the one of which Prof. Thomas has just given us the first instalment is by all odds the most scholarly and comprehensive. Indeed, it is the only one which can be proclaimed worthy of the poet whose name it bears, the only one which can be mentioned, if not side by side with the works of such men as Loeper or Schröer or Düntzer, at least in the very next place after them.

Prof. Thomas is not a novice in this field of work. For years he has given his best thought to the study of Goethe. The admirable Goethe collection which the University of Michigan owes to his indefatigable zeal and organizing power stands among the very first of its kind in America. His edition of "Torquato Tasso," which appeared a few years ago, is a model of critical tact and discretion. But it is as the editor of "Faust" that he will be most widely and favorably known. What gives to this edition its distinguishing feature is the spirit of directness and common sense which pervades it from beginning to end. Prof. Thomas approaches his task without any preconceived theories; he does not tamper with facts in order to import a philosophy of his own into Goethe's poem; he does not try to dazzle through brilliant æsthetic *aperçus;* he does not waste time in long-winded antiquarian or linguistic digressions. He gives us a careful historical account of the genesis of the legend and of Goethe's drama, and a thorough philological interpretation of the text. And it is mainly by reason of this wise self-restriction that his edition of "Faust" will mark an important step in the history of genuine Goethe study in America. Dilettantism will henceforth be out of the race.

According to his own statement (Pref., p. 5), Prof. Thomas has "as a rule avoided controversy and the rehearsal and discussion of conflicting views." For a book which is in the main intended to present a correct view of the accepted results of modern Goethe scholarship, this was unquestionably a sound decision. We cannot, however, suppress a doubt whether in some cases it would not have been better to adhere somewhat less strictly to this rule. In speaking of the popular Faust-drama of the seventeenth century, the editor remarks (Introd., p. 18) that this production "now appears to have been derived from Marlowe's 'Faustus' as brought to Germany by English players." It cannot be unknown to Prof. Thomas that this theory of Creizenach's has of late been most effectually attacked by a number of scholars, who seem to make it probable that there existed a native German Faust-drama as early as the sixteenth century. Even if there was no room for discussing Herman Grimm's ingenious hypothesis that the very Faust-book of 1587 was based in part upon a popular dramatic tradition, it seems as though it would have been within the scope of such an edition as this to mention at least the fact that, as Bielschowsky's incisive investigations have clearly demonstrated, there are a number of most important traits in the puppet-plays of Faust not to be found in Marlowe, which it is almost impossible to explain except by assuming that they were remnants of a sixteenth-century German Faust-play.

Lessing's "Faust" does not seem to receive its due share of attention at Prof. Thomas's hands. All that is given (Introd., p. 20) is a scanty reference to the famous seventeenth *Literaturbrief*. There is no analysis of the fragment of the drama itself, no allusion to the reports of Engel and Eschenburg about it, not even a mention of the important fact, so clearly brought out by Kuno Fischer, that Lessing was the first to conceive of a final salvation of Faust.

In speaking of the scene *Wald und Höhle* (Introd., pp. 53, 62; notes, p. 315), Prof. Thomas does not even hint at the possibility that the "erhabne Geist" whom Faust addresses on this occasion might be other than the Earth-Spirit of the opening scene. It is hard to believe that Prof. Thomas himself considers this as a certainty beyond question, in view of the powerful arguments by which W. von Biedermann has tried to refute this very interpretation. How, we may ask, would he reconcile the lines of the *Wald und Höhle* monologue:

> "Dann führst du mich zur sichern Höhle, zeigst
> Mich dann mir selbst, und meiner eignen Brust
> Geheime tiefe Wunder öffnen sich,"

with the words of the *Monodrama:*

> "Du Erdengeist, kennst du die Macht,
> Was eine Menschenbrust vermag?"

Is it possible to assume that both these utterances were addressed to the same being?

We have mentioned these cases, to which a number of others might be added, in order to show that Prof. Thomas has not always avoided a danger to which his desire for succinctness and his aversion to controversy made him peculiarly liable: the danger, namely, of dismissing without notice opinions and conjectures which it would have been well worth his while to admit at least to a hearing. But it would be unjust not to add that in the vast majority of cases Prof. Thomas's own judgment is so carefully considered, so well balanced, so eminently the result of a conscientious examination and comparison of all the available material, that it can truly stand for the best opinion of modern "Faust" criticism. One example at least among many may illustrate and fortify this praise: the way in which Prof. Thomas discusses *Mephistopheles's* character. Not even *Mephistopheles* has escaped that mania prevalent among modern commentators of reducing all poetical creations to mere copies of actual conditions or individuals. Some see in him Goethe's Leipzig friend Behrisch, others consider him modelled after J. H. Merck, still others think Herder his living prototype. Of course, there may be a grain of truth in every one of these identifications, and we think Prof. Thomas did entirely right to discuss every one of them at some length. But still more do we agree with him when, after having duly considered the claims of all these men to have shaped the conception of *Mephistopheles,* he winds up with the following remark (Introd., p. 78):

> "The truth is that Goethe's famous creation owes very little, and nothing that is clearly definable, to any actual personage. *Mephistopheles* is simply the natural, and, in view of Goethe's poetical methods, necessary, pendant to *Faust.* The pair are in their way but another instance of that dualism of poetic conception which meets us elsewhere as *Götz* and *Weislingen, Clavigo* and *Carlos, Orestes* and *Pylades, Tasso* and *Antonio.* . . . Our poet needed no models, and no suggestion beyond what was furnished by his widening acquaintance with life and his observation of the inner contrasts of his own being."

We must forego entering upon further particulars, such as the discussion of the "Urfaust," the analysis of *Wagner's* character, the consideration and partial refutation of Scherer's criticism of *Faust's* first monologue, and other passages of Prof. Thomas's work which seem to us especially worthy of commendation. But enough has been said to make it clear that here we have a work which, when completed, will be no small credit to American scholarship, and which even in its present form will do much to stimulate serious Goethe study in our colleges and universities.

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*Admiral Farragut.* By Capt. A. T. Mahan, U. S. N. D. Appleton & Co.

This little volume is the first of a series which is to be devoted to the lives of the great commanders of American history. It is fortunate that so able and competent a pen has been secured to treat of the career of the greatest naval commander of recent times, not only presenting one of the best short naval biographies that we know of, but giving also a critical naval history of great value of the operations in which Farragut took part. The work before us should serve to elevate and sustain the professional reputation of Farragut, and in addition make better known the professional and literary ability of his biographer.

Farragut was born near Knoxville, Tenn.,

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in 1801, his father being of unmixed Spanish origin, a native of the Balearic Isles, while his mother, of Scotch descent, was a native of North Carolina. Shortly after his birth, his father, who had served upon the side of the Americans during the War of the Revolution, removed to Louisiana and was appointed a sailing-master in the navy, his duties being confined to service in the waters of the Gulf. Through the kindness shown by the father of Farragut to the father of Capt. David Porter during his last illness, the relations between the families became intimate, and the future Admiral of the American Navy was adopted by the father of the late Admiral Porter, who was the second person to hold that grade in our naval service. Accompanying his protector to Washington, Farragut, in 1810, when less than ten years of age, received through the influence of Porter a warrant as midshipman in the navy. In 1811 he joined the frigate *Essex* with Capt. Porter, to whom the command of this vessel had been assigned. The building of the *Essex* by the citizens of Salem, in accordance with the law passed in 1798, is described here in an interesting manner; everything pertaining to the construction and equipment of the ship being portioned out among the people of this Massachusetts town, and supplied from its resources and those of the surrounding country. Each of the three ropewalks undertook the rigging of a mast, and the workmen carried the rope cables when completed upon their shoulders, in procession, to the ship, headed by a drum and fife.

The war of 1812 breaking out, the *Essex* was fitted out for her last and famous cruise in the Pacific. Missing the *Constitution* and *Hornet*, Porter finally proceeded to the Pacific, reaching Valparaiso in 1813, after a severe passage around Cape Horn. After a cruise of nearly a year, commerce-destroying, the *Essex* was met by English men-of-war, the *Phœbe* and *Cherub*, and shortly afterwards followed the famous action which, though resulting in the capture of the *Essex*, redounded more to the honor and fame of the captured than of the captors. Farragut lacked still three months of being thirteen years old in this fight. He saw service after his exchange before the termination of the war of 1812, and continued afloat without much interval or incident, excepting his service in the Mosquito fleet in the West Indies against pirates. In 1823 he returned to Norfolk and married, and from that time until the outbreak of the civil war his life was the ordinary one of a naval officer in time of peace, an alternation of sea cruising and duty on shore. The author, however, bears witness, from an examination of the private journal of Farragut, to his activity of mind, habits of observation, and above all to a constant readiness and diligence in embracing every passing opportunity for improvement, all of which told for so much in his after career. When at New Haven he availed himself of the lectures given at Yale College, and while on duty in Washington he attended regularly those of the Smithsonian Institution.

With Farragut, as with members of our military and naval services generally, the time of preparation was long, that of action but short. He was nearly sixty years of age in 1861, having been in the navy over fifty years, while his famous war career was compressed into a period of less than three years. We were fortunate, immediately after the outbreak of the war, in having had called to the Navy Department a man competent to act as its professional head, though not at the time in the naval service. Mr. Gustavus V. Fox, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, added to a naval experience of eighteen years an extensive acquaintance with naval officers and excellent business and military capacity. To him was due the general scheme of the expedition against New Orleans. Farragut, whose loyalty had stood the crucial test of the early days of the war, was selected for its command, and enthusiastically approved of the proposed operations. The author discusses fully the professional differences in the views of Farragut and Porter as to the passage of the forts, Porter favoring a reduction before passing, while Farragut, with Fox, believed that the passage of the forts should be made and the troops brought from the Gulf above the forts, under the protection of the ships, through the bayous. The passage of the forts is critically and fully described. The strategic foresight of Farragut enabled him to successfully carry his fleet by the forts, cut off their communications with New Orleans, and thus cause their fall. That the capture of the city, as well as the occupation of the Lower Mississippi, was the work of the United States Navy, and of the navy alone, has never been successfully impugned; and the author well says that of this triumphant work Farragut, by his magnificent successes, became the representative figure.

Space does not allow us to follow Farragut in his course up the Mississippi, and the succeeding combined operations which led to the Vicksburg campaign of Grant and ended in the final command of the great water route, which caused in turn the trans-Mississippi States of the Confederacy to shrink into insignificance as a military factor of the Rebellion. The criticisms of the author concerning these operations are peculiarly sound and able.

Mobile came next. It was, at the end of the period referred to, the best port upon the Gulf left to the Confederates; its attack had long been urged by Farragut as well as desired by Grant. When the Department directed the attack, a further delay occurred by reason of the completion of the iron-clad *Tennessee* and the consequent necessity for iron-clads upon the Union side. When the iron-clads arrived, Farragut found at Mobile new conditions, serviceable iron-clads for attack and defence, torpedoes and permanent channel obstructions. The fight at Mobile Bay, though less important in its objective and results than that below New Orleans, surpassed the latter in its varied nature, heroic personal leadership, and dramatic accompaniment. The confusion at the head of the column, from the mistaken course of the *Tecumseh* and the stopping of the *Brooklyn*, and the final sinking of the *Tecumseh*, all under the heavy fire of Fort Morgan, gave Farragut the opportunity to display his heroic qualities and genius for war. The ramming and iron-clad contest with the *Tennessee*, the pursuit by Jouett, and the final surrender of Buchanan, fitly closed this memorable page in American history.

After Mobile, Farragut's health and advancing years prevented him from taking any further active part in the war, and after the war in professional matters of importance; but his closing years were as unsullied as his whole life had been pure and elevated. Those who had the good fortune to know him during his lifetime felt drawn to him not only by his unobtrusive and simple character, but by his great kindliness of manner. His character is one that his countrymen can always dwell upon with a satisfaction and pride that needs no qualification. No great commander of the war for the Union, of either service, North or South, was more symmetrical and noble in his mould or more heroic in character than the first Admiral of the American Navy.

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*The Old English Manor.* By Charles M'Lean Andrews, Ph.D. Johns Hopkins Studies in Historical and Political Science. Extra Volume XII. Baltimore. 1892.

MR. ANDREWS'S substantial treatise on Anglo-Saxon manorial life is welcome, both as a scholarly piece of work and as testifying to a growing perception among American students of the vital importance of the question of the origin of the manor for any real understanding of the social evolution of the past. It is scholarly in the sense of being well informed and careful; and although the style is frequently slipshod, that is a minor defect, especially as the book appeals only to specialists.

The greater part of the volume is occupied by a minute description of manorial life in the century before the Norman Conquest. In this Mr. Andrews follows very closely the lines laid down by Mr. Seebohm, as indeed every unprejudiced writer since 1883 has been compelled to do; but he has brought together a wealth of additional detail which will be of no little service to subsequent investigators. He frankly concedes much that the writers with whom he has most sympathy have hitherto refused to recognize; that, for instance, "there is no reason to believe that the Norman Conquest created any changes in the life of the village group"; that the great body of the people were only "nominally free," and indeed can fairly be described as being "in a semi-servile condition"; and that there is "no clear evidence" for the existence of "freeholders" in pre-Norman times. He makes a still more important concession, of the full significance of which he is hardly aware, viz., that in the laws of Ine of Wessex (drawn up between A. D. 688 and A. D. 705) we already "find the manorial growth well developed, *either from serfdom upwards* or from freedom downwards," and indeed that they show "nearly every feature of the manor life of the *Rectitudines*"—a document three centuries later. This would seem to knock the bottom out of the argument to which Mr. Andrews more than once resorts as against Mr. Seebohm, that between the *villa* and the *manor* there is "a period of 600 years" without evidence. Mr. Andrews perhaps feels this; for he hastens to minimize his concession by the remark that "there is no clear indication of the labor upon which the whole question turns." There is much virtue in a *clear;* since the phrases of the laws of Ine certainly do indicate some sort of labor dues. And if we compare the conditions there revealed with the laws of the Alamanni and the laws of the Bavarians half a century earlier, it is easy to see in what direction the probability lies. Mr. Andrews warns us not to "draw inferences from Frankish practices," and he would probably add "or any other Continental parallels"; "for," he goes on, "it is plain that Roman influence on the Continent had consequences which cannot be applied to England." But this is precisely what has to be proved.

Thus, in the part of the work where Mr. Andrews is giving the results of his own study of the original sources, his conclusions are in general harmony with those of Mr. Seebohm and others who throw back the serfdom of the body of the population into a very distant period. But our author still clings to the free vil-

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lage-community theory, and in his long Introduction he propounds a view of his own. It is, in brief, that the manor is descended from the settlements of clans under hereditary chiefs. For this he adduces scarcely anything which looks like evidence, but still it is an opinion worth bearing in mind; and there are other considerations to which Mr. Andrews does not refer—such as the opinions of Skene and Sullivan as to the late and artificial origin of the clan—which tend in the same direction. Only, why not drop the term "village community"? It has too long been the practice to use it without discrimination for everything which differed from modern holding in severalty: like the writer quoted with approval by Mr. Andrews who says that "the Irish *tribe* was simply one example of those village communities which existed among all the early Aryan nations." The mediæval manor we know, and the tribe we are beginning to know; but the free *Markgenossenschaft* has never been more than a pleasing vision. And if Mr. Andrews and those like him who are almost ersuaded to give up Maurer will let their minds play freely round these facts—that English manorial life was substantially identical with the manorial life of the Continent, and that the manorial life of the Continent came down without break in continuity from the conditions of the later Roman Empire—they may at last recognize the likelihood that even in Britain the manor derived very much from Roman agrarian methods.

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*A Tour around New York.* By John Flavel Mines. Harper & Bros. 1893.

It would be a pity if these pleasant sketches, which have delighted so many readers, should go the way of what they commemorate and be forgotten. They deserve to be preserved in this permanent form, enriched and enlivened as it is by more than 100 engravings from well-chosen subjects of buildings, views, and curious relics described in the text. Taking Trinity Church as a starting-point, Felix Oldboy saunters leisurely through the streets, parks, burial grounds, and public buildings of the lower city, following the story of each one back from its condition now, through its changes to its beginning. The knowledge of persons and localities displayed in his early papers, and the genuine feeling pervading them, brought letters and requests from many correspondents. Guided by these, his walks extended over all the island, and his inquiries revealed new histories or discovered sites, while his range of reminiscences by degrees embraced almost all classes and institutions of New York as it was forty or fifty years ago, and his researches linked all these with the remoter past of Revolutionary days. Perhaps the latter part of the volume, devoted to the shores of the East River, is the best instance of his skilful use of points historical and traditional. At the same time the sketches of the scenery and the society of that region abound in picturesque effects and interesting personalities.

One does not look for a keynote in writings which their author speaks of as simply the records of a random tour through familiar places, recalling the persons of other days. Yet such a note is betrayed. The sketches are held together by the slightest thread of recurrence to one quiet home and its gracious inmates. As the notes of saunterings widen in range they deepen in feeling and gain a simple tenderness; and the close of the first series expresses the undertone of the whole, in the answer, more amused than contemptuous, to some one's suggestion that Felix Oldboy knows nothing of "the élite of the city in former years." It is of the finest style—the quiet way in which the modern social standards of the soi-disant élite are ignored, and the true worth and dignity of the elder ways implied, in contrast with the extravagances of fashionable leaders and their fashionable rabble at this day. It does not lie at all in the author's way to explain such contrasts, but their causes are suggested in every family name that he cites, in every civic function he describes, in every sidelight he throws on the spirit and drift of the old public and private city life, out of which that of to-day has sprung—widened, stimulated, enriched, but surely, as to many of the best things, degenerate.

As a startling outcome of forces that had long been working for social changes, the author mentions the civil war. No doubt society, not merely in its surface show, but in all its relations to business, politics, morals, was profoundly modified by that tragic period, with its "sudden making of splendid" fortunes. Still, other influences of change, more subtle if less violent, are suggested by Oldboy's light touches upon the men and their deeds of fifty years ago. The mention of some great merchant's name revives the strong personality, the wide knowledge, the bold forecast that won commercial leadership before the telegraph had equalized opportunities and almost levelled capacities. If some eminent banker is named, it serves to remind us of the times when financiers had not yet found Fortunatus's purse in the needs of great corporations. If Oldboy had been asked the question, we believe he would have answered that of all the powers speeding the shifting of the old and the coming of the new order, that one which works most deeply at the foundation of society is the rise and growth of corporations, stifling individuality, concentrating power, deadening responsibility. But this is digressing into regions which Oldboy's cheerful lightness would have avoided.

As his clerical lineage and connections lead us to expect, the writer's notes reveal many curious facts about the churches of a half century ago. The tenacity of doctrine, even the persistence in locality, of some of these modest and little known religious communities, is striking. The salt of the earth is still strewn in many out-of-the-way places. Of the legal profession he has less that is new, because old, to tell us. Indeed, the men of the robe have never been backward in speaking for themselves, their share in public affairs always keeping them conspicuous. The names he dwells upon are those of lawyers whose civic service and social charm made them the peers and friends of the great merchants who win Oldboy's warmest praise. The medical brotherhood cannot be said to fare worst at his hands, for in fact it does not fare at all. Yet old Manhattan, healthful and beautiful as he paints it, knew both the blessing of doctors and the curse of quacks. We have personally known one desperate Sangrado and an Ollapod or two. In the plagues of yellow fever and cholera that have invaded the island there have been heroes of the hospital whose names deserved to be kept green; and New York society has at all times recognized, as it does to-day, certain physicians as among its most brilliant and valued members. However, men of the first rank in that profession have never been quite as ready as those in the others to let their left hand know what their right hand was doing.

It may be that the new times are the better times. At any rate those who enjoy them will think so. It may gratify their curiosity, as it will touch with a tender regret those who lead them by a score or two of years, to read these lively memorials of a time when brick, mahogany, and madeira were going out with the old ex-slave servant, while brownstone, veneer, and thin potations began to come in with Biddy and valets. There are some men with minds so constituted as to think that things in our city ought to be honest as well as splendid—that on the whole the public good is not so well served by "combines" of Hans and Mike as by dull old Dutch probity. Such persons would actually prefer what used to be advertised as "an agreeable rum," brought in by traders fifty years ago, to fiery whiskey attending the advent of Hibernian statesmen.

We may hope for help to better municipal rule from one class for whom this book should be full of interest. They are the scions of those families whose names are recorded in it only to be honored, and whose line of public service runs back to the days of colonial Government. And among the correspondents whose attention was drawn to these papers there must be many whose stores of information and anecdote upon kindred subjects would be welcomed by the public. Such contributions might aid to complete this valuable record of what may be called the biography of New York city, as distinct from its history.

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## BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Allen, Grant. The Attis of Catullus. London: David Nutt.
Anstey, F. Voces Populi. Second series. Longmans, Green & Co. $1.75.
Ariel Shakspere. 7 vols. Putnams. $5.25.
Bates, Charlotte F. The Cambridge Book of Poetry and Song. T. Y. Crowell & Co. $2.50.
Best Dressed Man: A Gossip on Manners and Modes. London: J. W. Doré; Boston: J. G. Cupples Co.
Browning's Prose Life of Strafford. Boston: Estes & Lauriat.
Bruce, Rev. A. B. Apologetics. [International Theological Library.] Scribners. $2.50.
Chambrun, Le Comte de. Aux Montagnes d'Auvergne: Mes Conclusions Sociologiques. Paris: Calmann Lévy.
Clews, Henry. Twenty-eight Years in Wall Street. Irving Publishing Co.
Clifford, Mrs. W. K. The Last Touches, and Other Stories. Macmillan. $1.
Colomb, Madame C. Hermine's Triumph. Appletons.
Cone, Jessica. Scenes from the Life of Christ. Putnams. $3.50.
Conybeare, F. C. A Collation with the Ancient Armenian Versions of the Greek Text of Aristotle's Categories, etc. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan.
Day, O. F. G. The Devil's Gold. Chicago: Morrill, Higgins & Co. 50 cents.
Deutsche Volkslieder. [Knickerbocker Nuggets.] Putnams. $1.50.
Doyle, A. C. The Great Shadow. Harpers.
Driver, Prof. S. R. Sermons on Subjects connected with the Old Testament. London: Methuen & Co.
Dumas, A. The Man in the Iron Mask. M. J. Ivers & Co. 25 cents.
Dunbar, Newell. Heinrich Heine: His Wit, Wisdom and Poetry. Boston: J. G. Cupples Co.
Francis, Edward. Life of Chopin. [Petite Library.] Brentanos. 50 cents.
Galdós, B. P. Marianela. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. $1.
Gogol, Nikolai V. The Inspector-General. London: Walter Scott; New York: Lovell & Co. $1.25.
Gore, Rev. Charles. The Mission of the Church. Scribners. $1.
Grossmith, George and Weedon. The Diary of a Nobody. Tait, Sons & Co. $1.25.
Gruener, Prof. Gustav. Keller's Dietegen. Boston: Ginn & Co. 40 cents.
Hoskins, L. M. The Elements of Graphic Statics. Macmillan. $2.25.
Hugo, V. Les Misérables. 2 vols. New ed. T. Y. Crowell & Co.
Hume, Fergus. The Fever of Life. Tait, Sons & Co. $1.
Hyne, C. J. C. The New Eden. Longmans, Green & Co. $1.
Ireland, Mrs. Alexander. Selections from the Letters of Geraldine Endsor Jewsbury to Jane Welsh Carlyle. Longmans, Green & Co. $5.
Ivanhoe. [English Classics for Schools.] American Book Co. 50 cents.
King, J. H. The Supernatural: Its Origin, Nature, and Evolution. 2 vols. London: Williams & Norgate; New York: Putnams. $6.

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Lamb's Wit and Wisdom. [Knickerbocker Nuggets.] Putnams. $1.
Leger, Louis. La Littérature Russe. Paris: Armand Colin & Cie.
Malleson, Col. G. B. The Refounding of the German Empire, 1848–1871. Scribners. $1.75.
Massingham, H. W. The London Daily Press. F. H. Revell Co. $1.
Minet, William. Some Account of the Huguenot Family of Minet. London: The Author.
Paul, Prof. Hermann. Grundriss der Germanischen Philologie. II Band, 1 Abteilung, Lieferungen 5 and 7. Strassburg: Karl J. Trübner.
Richards, Mrs. Laura E. Hildegarde's Home. Boston: Estes & Lauriat.
Robinson, C. N., and Leyland, John. In the Queen's Navee. Brentanos. $1.50.
Sanborn, E. J., and A. W. Dramas. Boston: J. G. Cupples Co. $1.
Tucker, Elizabeth S. A Cup of Tea: Pictures from Doll Life. Worthington Co.
Tucker, Elizabeth S. Little Ways and Great Plays. Worthington Co.
Tynan, Katharine. Irish Love-Songs. Cassell. $1.25.
Vagabond Rhymes. Boston: Cupples. $1.25.
Woods, Katharine P. From Dusk to Dawn. Appletons.
Wordsworth's Poems Selected by Matthew Arnold. T. Y. Crowell & Co. $2.50.
Worthington's *Annual*. 1893. Worthington Co.
Wright, Prof. G. F. Man and the Glacial Period. Appletons.
Wright, W. W. The Works of Shakspere. (The Cambridge Shakspere.) Vol. VIII. Macmillan. $3.
Ziehen, Prof. Theodor. Introduction to Physiological Psychology. London: Sonnenschein; New York: Macmillan. $1.50.

*Readers of the* FORUM *will remember Dr. Weir Mitchell's recent enthusiastic article on the privately-printed sonnets of* MR. CHARLES LEONARD MOORE. *Messrs. Henry Holt & Co. have pleasure in announcing that they have arranged to publish Mr. Moore's works as follows:*

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". . . We call this poetry."—*Harper's Monthly.*

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